

صحنه من العمل



Monday November 11 1996

Table of international news rates for various countries including Australia, Canada, France, Germany, etc.

# The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 46,707

Matthew Engel goes back to school

## Cheek at the chalk face

G2 with European weather

SportExtra

## Frank Keating witnesses the taming of Iron Mike

Mike's new image 16

Media

## Paula Milne's plea to protect Channel 4

G2 pages 7/9

# Brown talks tough on Europe

## Labour in Social Chapter switch

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

THE Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, will today seek to toughen Labour's stance on Europe — and weaken its commitment to the Social Chapter — with a promise to veto any attempts to force Britain to adopt common social security policies or give workers the right to a seat on company boards.

He will tell the Confederation of British Industry conference in Harrogate that Labour shares the concerns of business about these two key elements of the Social Chapter. After strong lobbying from the CBI, Mr Brown will argue that Labour's transformation into an unashamedly pro-business party means that it will look at European social legislation on a case-by-case basis. Government ministers have been keeping up a non-stop barrage over Labour's support for the Social Chapter, and Mr Brown's speech —

coming after the cooler line on the single currency taken by the Shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook — is a sign of the Opposition's determination to neutralise Europe as an election issue. Mr Brown has no intention of importing any European legislation that would threaten jobs. He hopes to reassure the CBI that Labour's policy of signing up to the Social Chapter falls well short of a blanket commitment and is not a way of introducing Europe's high social costs "by the back door".

He will say: "We must never return to the situation here in Britain where — unlike in America or most of Europe — one party is seen as pro-business and the other is seen as anti-business." Labour is keen to counter Tory claims that it would agree to an extension of qualified majority voting (QMV), thereby leaving Britain with no alternative but to accept continental-style social laws. "Some have suggested that we will allow QMV in new areas," Mr Brown will say. "We will sign the Social Chapter, a position that the

British people have consistently supported, but we will not allow QMV to be extended to areas where it should not be." At the moment, there are two sections to the Social Chapter: one governed by QMV, the other requiring unanimity. Mr Brown will say that Labour has no intention of allowing social security and co-determination in the boardroom to be moved into the section where Britain could be outvoted by other member states. Labour's tough talking on the Social Chapter won the

immediate support of business, which is convinced that it can comfortably live with the directives on works councils and parental leave. Sir Colin Marshall, CBI president, said yesterday that business wanted to see social policy reformed so that it was about "employability of the unemployed" and not about "making conditions better for those in work".

Seumas Milne adds: Mr Brown's new sceptical approach to European social legislation came as John Major prepared to turn the Government's anticipated defeat in the European Court tomorrow over the 38-hour week to his political advantage. The court is expected to throw out Britain's claim that the working time directive — which seeks to limit working hours and guarantee minimum holiday rights — should not have been passed under health and safety legislation, over which Britain has no veto. Ministers were yesterday threatening non-cooperation at next month's Dublin summit. Unions' legal push, page 4

## Heseltine at centre of new sleaze row

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

THE Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, will today be pressed to explain his role in a damaging new "sleaze" affair, arising from evidence that he and John Major sought to undermine the neutrality of the Civil Service by ordering officials to work on "party political" tasks in the run-up to the election.



The Deputy Prime Minister proposed that departments should identify service providers who could be vigorous and attractive proponents of Government policies.

In the first big test of the new code of ethics which came into force a year ago, the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, who also heads the Civil Service, vetoed Mr Heseltine's plan for Whitehall officials to set up teams of "cheerleaders" to champion Government policy. Sir Robin's action came after concern was expressed by the senior Civil Service union, the FDU. A copy of a Cabinet Office memorandum, leaked to Labour yesterday, makes it clear that Mr Heseltine had personally proposed that government departments should "identify service providers who could be vigorous and attractive proponents of government policies".

The memo, sent to ministers' parliamentary private secretaries in mid-August, also discloses that Mr Major had rubber-stamped the plan. Mr Heseltine insisted that the wording of the memo had been misinterpreted. He accused Labour of waging a dirty tricks campaign. Sir Robin's concerns had been dealt with, he said on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*. "Sir Robin pointed out to me that it was very important



David Trimble, Faddy Ashdown, Tony Blair and John Major hold wreaths as the Queen arrives at the Cenotaph yesterday to honour the nation's war dead

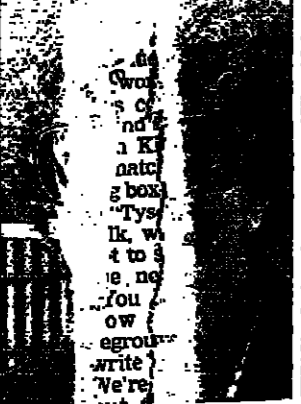
## Hong Kong Gurkhas in final battle

### Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong on the minorities denied British residence rights

AS BRITAIN pauses this morning to remember its war dead, a tacit alliance of the Queen and the Hong Kong governor, Chris Patten, is challenging the Government's stance against granting British residence rights to the families of Gurkha troops who served in the Falklands and other Hong Kong ethnic minority groups. There has been widespread dismay in the colony, which reverts to China on July 1 next year, over

territory. The Royal British Legion believes today's two-minute silence at 11am will be the most widely heeded since shortly after the second world war. A man will appear in court today after a minister's face was slashed during a Highland village's remembrance service. The Rev John MacPherson needed 16 stitches in a wound received during yesterday's two-minute silence at the war memorial at Scourie on the west coast of Sutherland. A local man, Donald MacLeod, aged 62, was taken into custody.

## Fleet Street doyenne Marje Proops dies



MARJORIE Proops, doyenne of the personal advice column and veteran of Fleet Street, died last night. Ms Proops, better known as Dear Marje, dispensed advice and encouragement and attacked social taboos during a career that spanned a moral revolution and more than 44 years on her beloved *Daily Mirror*. She was believed to be 85 when she died, although she

hid her age so she could never be retired. Labour leader Tony Blair said last night: "She was a legend in journalism and will be sadly missed, not just by the *Mirror* and its readers, but by the country, who came to appreciate her warmth and generosity." Her journalistic career began with the *Daily Herald* in 1945 as fashion editor, but by 1954 she was agony aunt on *Woman's Mirror*, where she asked readers to send stamped addressed envelopes for special advice on matters deemed improper for publication. By the permissive Sixties her column was openly advising young girls on contraception and abortion and young men about their sexual inadequacies. She once proudly boasted that she was the first journalist in Britain to address the issue of masturbation. Her columns reflected the evolution of social mores, covering issues from battered wives and children to AIDS. She was devoted to the

Daily *Mirror*, which she steadfastly refused to leave despite lucrative offers from the competition because, she said, it reflected her feelings about society. "It, too, cared about what happened to ordinary folk, to those underdogs I worried about so much." She had a staff of eight to handle more than 50,000 letters a year. She logged every one as some correspondents leant on her for regular comfort. But behind the huge trade-

## The Guardian

To our readers, Over recent weeks, we have been experiencing production problems which have seriously affected our distribution in some countries. We have now installed new transmission equipment at both our overseas print sites — an investment which will ensure a regular and timely distribution of The Guardian International to our readers all over the world.

Guardian Newspapers will continue to invest in the future — to make The Guardian International available in as many countries as possible, as early as possible. We thank you for your continued support. For further information on availability and subscriptions, please contact us: International Publishing Dept Tel: (44) (0)171 239 9949 Fax: (44) (0)171 713 4131 E-mail: guardian.co.uk

Table of contents for the newspaper, including sections like Britain, World News, Finance, Sport, Comment and Letters, Crossword, and Radio/TV listings.

The Guardian Europe's Quality Newspaper. Includes a barcode and the number 770261 307316.

# Weekly service of hatred rings Ulster mass

'You dirty fenian bastards!' screams a man in a Glasgow Rangers sweatshirt as Catholics enter. 'You tell 'em, big lad' chimes a callow youth clad in Reebok and Adidas



David Sharrock

It's called the buckle in Ulster's bible belt, and church-going in Ballymena most certainly is a popular activity. But, what brings hordes of Protestants to a Catholic church on a Saturday night?

Can it be that the spirit of peace and reconciliation has moved the good people of the north Antrim fully re-elected Ian Paisley every general election — in mysterious ways? Let us draw near in order to better observe the peculiar events unfolding at Our Lady's Church, Harryville.

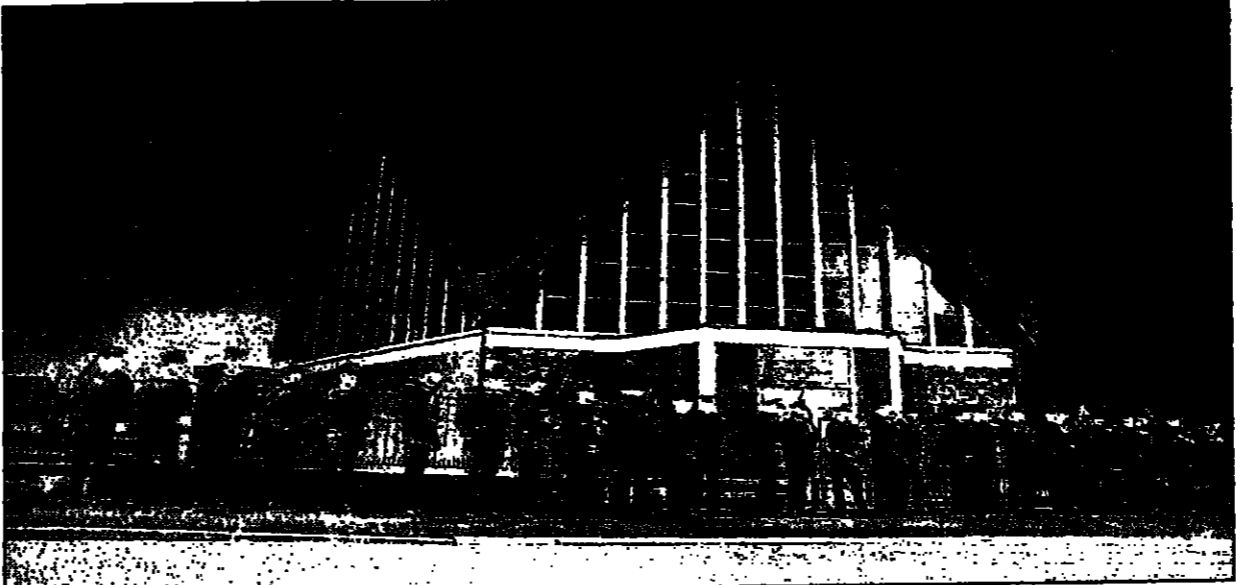
"You dirty fenian bastards!" screams a man in a Glasgow Rangers sweatshirt. "You tell 'em, big lad!" chimes a callow youth clad in Reebok and Adidas. There's a chorus of the Sash and then, finally, that old favourite... yes it's No Pope in Rome.

No, no pope in Rome. No chapels to shine in my eye. No nuns or no priests, no rosary beads. Every day is the Twelfth of July.

That one always brings the house down. It has been doing services for the 200 loyalist protestors outside Our Lady's for the past nine weeks. The demonstrations are yet another lingering after-effect of the summer's convulsions at Drumcree and beyond, reigniting the old Green-Orange antagonism.

The protests outside Our Lady's began in direct retaliation to the blocking of an Orange parade through the largely nationalist village of Dunloy at the fag-end of the annual marching season. Other Catholic churches in Bushmills and Dervock were also affected. In some of the early incidents, parishioners were prevented from entering their places of worship. At Our Lady's the weekly Saturday evening mass used to attract 600. One week, attendance dropped to nine but since then the numbers have risen to 300.

The poison that has bubbled up since Drumcree, and which has created an atmosphere between Protestant and Catholic that most people say they have not experienced in decades, has wrecked



Members of the RUC stand guard outside Our Lady's Church to protect it from the Protestant crowd. PHOTOGRAPH: MELVIN BOVES

businesses, torched Orange halls and churches and sparked riots at soccer games. None of that is unfamiliar. Picketing religious buildings, however, is a brand new phenomenon and a uniquely vile spectacle to watch.

It begins with the arrival of a fleet of the RUC's battleship-grey armoured Land Rovers

as the sun begins to set. They mooch around Harryville, a staunchly loyalist southern suburb of Ballymena, before drawing themselves into a circle around Our Lady's. The church already has an ugly iron fence and the parochial house is covered in wire grilles.

Father Frank Mullin is pre-

paring for the evening mass within. A survivor of the Biafran war in 1967, he swears he was more frightened in Ballymena last July than he ever was in Africa. "It has been very scary for people coming here and now the nights are closing in it's even worse because you can't see how many are out there," he says. The

parochial house has been stoned on several occasions. During Twelfth Week — the apex of the marching season in July — he looked out of the window through the protective wire one morning

and saw his car merrily burning.

When the chanting rises to a crescendo it can be clearly heard during the service. "I thought I had a fair command of obscenities but there've been a few new ones on me."

Father Mullin no longer spends the night in the house, even if it does resemble a bunker. A few years ago he suffered a heart attack. The Church sent him to Ballymena, thinking it would be a nice quiet place for him to spend his declining years. He smiles at the irony of his life.

The press no longer takes much interest in the picket and even he has given up mentioning it during the service. "There is apparently no meditation taking place, or if there is he is not aware of it. "People just take it for granted now. Nobody seems to know who's in charge but Harryville is apparently the benchmark now. You know, if anything happens anywhere in Northern Ireland that seems to infringe on Protestant rights they seem to take it out of us here."

"There's a few eggs thrown and fire crackers and people coming to the mass have to run the gauntlet of these lunatics. It's just contemptible, that's the only word for it."

At 6.50pm an elderly lady, leaning on a walking stick, ar-

rives. She says she's called Mary and has been coming to Our Lady's since it was built 26 years ago. "I don't want any trouble but I don't want the chapel closed down and, if people are afraid of coming, that's what will happen."

Once the service gets underway the protestors amuse themselves by baiting the police, singing "Sinne Fein-RUC, Sinn Fein-RUC" and blocking the road 500 yards to the right of Our Lady's, waiting for the police to move in and then dashing 600 yards to the left to repeat the stunt.

The police bring a few dogs forward as the mass draws to a close and the faithful begin to depart, most of them leaving the area by car.

As they leave there are calls of "Cheerio, don't come back, you're not wanted here."

A young woman steps out in front of a car, the headlamps freezing her face which is contorted into a mask of hatred. "Go on you scum ye, fuck off!" she screams at the occupants, one of whom is Mary with her walking stick.

As the police pull back, pursued by jeers, the demonstration breaks up with young men promising one another they will be back again next week. They head off into the freezing night to buy chips and watch Blind Date on the television.

## 'Insider' fears on Tunnel shares

Ian King

THE Serious Fraud Office said last night that it was investigating possible insider dealing in shares of Eurotunnel, the Channel tunnel operator.

The SFO said it was looking into the trades at the request of the French authorities. Under the terms of the investigation, which is understood to have the support of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, the SFO does not have to bring charges.

The deals are thought to have been carried out on the London and Paris stock exchanges in 1994 — the year in which the tunnel opened — shortly before Eurotunnel announced plans to restructure its debt, which now stands at over £9 billion.

It is thought the French authorities want the SFO to investigate allegations that some nine City banks and institutions were involved in manipulating the price of Eurotunnel shares.

The basis of the French investigation, being conducted by the insider dealing unit of the French police, is that information on the restructuring terms leaked to speculators before it was made public.

At the time, Eurotunnel's chairman, Sir Alastair Morton, expressed concern that "professional short sellers" were driving down the price of Eurotunnel shares in order to make a profit by buying them back more cheaply at a later date.

Eurotunnel is believed to have complained on numerous occasions to the French authorities about trades in its shares, and before its latest debt restructuring this year it requested that dealings be

suspended well in advance of any announcement.

Last night, a spokeswoman for Eurotunnel said the company welcomed the investigation, but had not yet been shown any documentation.

She added: "The investigation is being conducted into other companies, not us, so it would not be appropriate to comment further."

Confirming the investigation, SFO spokesman James O'Donoghue said any information collected would be passed to the French authorities. "We do not have grounds to investigate market manipulation on a domestic level."

Mr O'Donoghue said the SFO was not conducting its own domestic investigation because most Eurotunnel shares are owned by French institutions. "Most dealings in Eurotunnel shares have been in Paris, so it's not surprising that the focus should be over there," he said.

Because Eurotunnel's debts are so huge, £25 banks are owed money by Eurotunnel, with some 26 in charge of negotiations with the company on debt restructuring.

According to City insiders, with so many institutions involved it would be surprising if some confidential information had not leaked.

The SFO investigation is the latest of a series of incidents which have taken the shine off Europe's most ambitious engineering project. The tunnel has been plagued by operating delays, revenues far below expectations, and an unsustainable interest rate bill of £2 million a day, and has severely disappointed investors at the share price.

The disclosure of the SFO's involvement is likely to produce further turbulence when the stock markets open in London and Paris today.



Russian police stand next to the body of a victim of a bomb blast at a memorial service in a Moscow cemetery. At least 13 people were killed in the attack. PHOTOGRAPH: DIMA KOROTAYEV

## Moscow grave bomb kills 13

Escalating mob was blamed for carnage at Afghan war veterans' memorial service

James Week in Moscow

RUSSIA'S mobster battles reached a new pitch of horror yesterday as a powerful bomb exploded among a crowd of veterans of the Afghan war and their families at a memorial service in Moscow, killing at least 13 people and wounding 18 more, including a child.

The home-made device, containing 5 lbs of TNT, went off in the Kolyakovsky cemetery as about 130 people gathered at the graveside of Mikhail Likhodey, the former head of the Afghan War Invalids Foundation, who was assassinated by a bomb outside his flat two years ago.

bomb had been hidden under the mourners' table, which is a permanent fixture at many Orthodox Christian graves.

The force of the blast threw one body 30 yards. Among those killed were Likhodey's successor, Sergei Trakhirov, and his widow, Yelena Krasnolutskaia.

Investigators immediately ascribed the bomb to a *razborka* — a settling of accounts between criminal groups vying for control of the foundation's business activities.

for huge tax-free import-export operations.

"There's a real struggle for power going on between [veterans'] organisations," said Mikhail Berger, a journalist from *Izvestiya* newspaper who has led campaigns against the exemptions. "In 1994 and 1995, they had very considerable advantages in the export of oil and the import of cars."

A year after Likhodey's murder, his rival for authority in the 14,000-strong veterans' lobby, Valery Radchikov, was seriously wounded in an assassination attempt. It was not clear whether he had been trying to take control of the foundation or simply runs a rival veterans' organisation.

Exemptions and other benefits have led to violence in other areas. Earlier this month the president of the Russian Association of the Deaf, Valery Karbabinov, was shot dead in his luxury car. It was the fourth killing in 18 months related to the deaf

association and thought to be linked to attempts by organised crime groups to plug into the association's privileges.

In a scandal that shook the Kremlin, the National Sports Foundation, run by close friends of President Boris Yeltsin, used its tax exemptions to import hundreds of millions of pounds worth of duty-free goods to sell on the open market. Its recently reinstated head, Boris Fyodorov, was the target of an assassination attempt this year.

The country's corrupt, underpaid and badly trained law enforcement agencies have failed to solve the hundreds of assassinations of businessmen, politicians and journalists which have taken place over the past five years.

In a report issued yesterday Moscow police said the murder rate in the capital was down compared with last year, but there had still been 219 contract killings in the first 10 months of this year.

## Bewitchment and weirdness in world of Welshpop

Review

Caroline Sullivan

Catantonia/Gorky's Zygotie Myne/LAZ/King's College, London

Is there an actual "Welsh scene" or do a lot of new bands just happen to come from there? It's all too easy to picture the current proliferation as belonging to one club whose entry requirements are knowing the same three-loaf chords and the ability to speak a smattering of their native tongue. But scratch a

Welsh band, and you discover peeped people who fail to see any similarities between themselves and the next guys. They would certainly resent being lumped into the same review. But if Cardiff's Catantonia and Carmarthen's Gorky's Zygotie Myne play London on the same night at venues 10 minutes apart

High praise indeed, but Gorky's weirdness rather scuppers their chances of being more than a cult indie attraction, despite scoring a hit single with *Patio Song*. Their difference is probably genetic, the drummer's and bassist's fathers being, respectively, the Chief Druid of Wales and a sackbut player

in a medieval orchestra. It seemed best to start with the relatively straightforward Catantonia at LA2. The place was jammed, testament to their A-list status on Radio 1's Evening Session. Despite the band being essentially invisible behind a sea of wobbling heads, it took all of three seconds to establish that Matthews is the *raison d'être*, and the backing band mere men. Without her angel-rasp and beery camaraderie, Catantonia would be another middling post-Britpop outfit.

With her, they're as bewitching as the pre-*In-America* Cranberries, and could easily be as successful — if Americans are not offended by the

sight of a young lady waving a can of Stella like she's Rod Stewart, that is.

A sharp-eyed trek to the sixth floor of a building near Waterloo Bridge, and a whole different world. Unlike the unanimously enthusiastic Catantonia audience, the Gorky crowd was ambivalent. "Say that they're rubbish," one short student-type directed me as his mate shouted: "Boring!"

Boring? Anything but, schmuck. Their influences are too diverse — from the Beach Boys to Kevin Ayers — and their appearance too. Flashes of the *Merfs* to be less than rhyethy, even put that druid

heritage to good use in such numbers as the dissonant, unearthly *Blood Chant*.

Given that three of the four are under 21, much of their experimentation comes under the heading *Youthful Polly* (take — please — *The Game Of Eyes*, constructed around a vocal duel between singer Euros Childs' soft drawl and bassist Richard James's leucac Hayes rumble), but no matter. There is something cherishable about a band who not only interpose long Welsh phrases into their tunes but

we're doing everything possible but we need extra funds now to respond as this crisis unfolds.

Please, give a donation today.

credit card donations @ 01865 2231

## Oxfam Save lives in Central Africa

Up to one million people in Eastern Zaire are dying from starvation and disease. Some refugees have been able to flee into Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Tanzania. Oxfam can help them.

We are providing clean water for thousands of those who have escaped the turmoil. You can help us to save more lives.

We are doing everything possible but we need extra funds now to respond as this crisis unfolds.

Please, give a donation today.

credit card donations @ 01865 2231

Yes, I want to help Oxfam work in Central Africa. Here is my donation of:

£25  £50  £100  £250

Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms

Address

Postcode

Please send to Oxfam, Room BA02, 100 Broad Street, London W1P 3PS. Tel: 01865 2231. Fax: 01865 2231. Email: oxfam@oxfam.org.uk

سكنا من الامل

Commons committee to quiz former Tory whip as deadline reached in cash for questions inquiry



THE TANGLED WEB

New phase for Hamilton and Greer cash inquiries

Sleaze issue back under spotlight

David Hencke on attempts to lift the veil on Westminster's shadowy worlds

THE cash for questions affair returns to the centre of the political stage today when the inquiry by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards moves into a new phase...

Tim Smith, either directly or through Mr Greer, to ask questions in Parliament. The allegations over Harrods are that five Conservative MPs, Mr Hamilton, Mr Smith, Sir Michael Grylls, Andrew Bowden and Sir Peter Hordern, were co-ordinated through Mr Greer to ask questions.

Questions they should answer

Tonight is the provisional deadline for sending Sir Gordon Downey evidence about the cash for questions scandal. The Guardian believes his terms of reference should include the following:

Grid of questions and portraits of individuals involved in the scandal, including Sir Gordon Downey, Sir Michael Grylls, and others.

Glimpse into government whips' secret world

David Hencke Westminster Correspondent

A GLIMPSE into the shadowy world of government whips will be given today when David Willetts, the Paymaster General and former junior whip, is questioned by MPs as to whether he tried to smother the first "cash-for-questions" inquiry in 1994.



David Willetts: memo raises questions over his role

Willetts is said to have suggested 'exploiting good Tory majority' on Commons committee week given the opportunity to refresh his memory with a meeting with Murdoch MacLean, the chief whip's private secretary...

How other nations investigate

Comparison of investigation methods in the US, France, and Germany, detailing how each country handles political scandals.

Battered Tyson's thoughts turn to lucrative rematch

THE fearsome boxing reputation of Mike Tyson, bruised, battered and bloodied after defeat at the hands of Evander Holyfield, will never be won back. But even as he was counted out in the 11th round in Las Vegas, promoter Don King was proclaiming a rematch that could break boxing box-office records.

Advertisement for the play 'Old Wicked Songs' by Bob Hoskins and James Callis, featuring a large image of the actors and promotional text.

Lord Chief Justice joins in attack on the Home Secretary's plans for US-style minimum mandatory sentences on repeat offenders

# Top judge hits at Howard proposals

**Alan Travis**  
*Home Affairs Editor*

**B** RITAIN'S most senior judge, the new Lord Chief Justice, yesterday said he would join the fight against key parts of Michael Howard's law and order legislation.

The attack by Lord Bingham on the Crime (Sentencing) Bill, particularly its introduction of US-style minimum mandatory sentences, comes hard on the heels of similar criticism from three former Tory cabinet ministers, Douglas Hurd, Kenneth Baker and Peter Brooke.

But Lord Bingham said he would not play an active role in the campaign in Parliament to force the Government to drop parts of the legislation. The minimum the judges wanted was to be able to set aside a mandatory sentence if they believed it would lead to injustice.

The legislation, which was unopposed by Labour at its second reading last week, will introduce a three-year minimum mandatory sentence for third-time burglars; seven-year minimum sentences for repeat drug dealers; and an automatic life sentence for second-time violent criminals, including rapists and armed robbers.

Lord Bingham, speaking on BBC's Breakfast with Frost, said that the introduction by Mr Howard of a concession allowing judges to pass sentences less than the mandatory minimum "in exceptional circumstances" was far too narrow to win their backing.

"This does not meet the problem at all," he cited a 1991 law which said judges should not suspend sentences except in exceptional circumstances.

"In a very closely related context the courts have had to construe this exception recently and they have done what Parliament intended and they have put a narrow

construction on it. They have treated psychiatric problems, financial pressures, family difficulties and threats of suicide as not being exceptional.

"In the run of criminal cases, these kinds of explanations are coming up all the time and so a judge is going to have to, to be true to the intentions of Parliament, put his hand on his heart and say 'is this exceptional?' and usually it will not be."

The problems with Mr Howard's legislation would be mitigated if it "did not oblige a judge to pass a mandatory sentence if he considers it, in all the circumstances, unjust". He would expect a judge to give his reasons in open

court in such cases. "That at least would enable him to give effect to his sense of the justice of the case... That is what he is there for. He is a professional paid to be expert in these matters."

He was also critical of Mr Howard's plans to abolish the current system of automatic parole and early release. The current system had worked well.

Now it was to be replaced by a scheme under which prison officers would be expected to decide which inmates deserved time off for good behaviour and which did not.

That was a recipe for all kinds of tensions.

**Law lords to put judgments on Internet**

**THE** House of Lords will this week become the first British court to publish its judgments on the Internet, writes *Clare Dyer*.

Five law lords, including the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, will launch the venture on Thursday with a unanimous judgment in the case of a flash fire at a chemical factory.

It will be published on Parliament's home page at <http://www.parliament.uk>.

The lead judgment will be delivered by Lord Hoffmann, an ex-academic who travels to work by bicycle and has a keen interest in information technology.

He and Lords Jauncey, Mustill, and Gough will decide whether a 1993 conviction against Associated Ocel Limited under the Health and Safety at Work Act should stand.

The law lords produce 50 to 60 judgments a year, hearing only those cases that raise questions of law of public importance.

Law reports are already available on the Internet, but these are summaries by lawyers of court judgments.

The House of Lords is the first to publish full judgments, incidentally saving the cost of 25 each and a trip to the Lords' judicial office for the written version.

A spokesman said the law lords were leading the way because they were the only court with access to an existing web site.

But the innovation will also suit the unpretentious style of the highest court in the land — the law lords hear cases dressed in business suits, and sit behind tables, on the same level as lawyers, in an ordinary House of Lords committee room.

# Unions poised for legal push over working hours

**Seumas Milne and Stephen Bates in Brussels**

**T** HE Government faces a legal onslaught from the trade union movement if, as expected, the European Court of Justice tomorrow throws out John Major's objections to the EU's long-delayed 48-hour working week and holiday rights directive.

Three unions — Unison, the GMB general union, and the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union — confirmed yesterday that they planned to take legal action over a government failure to implement the three-year-old Working Time Directive, which is due to come into effect in all member states on November 23. Privatised utilities and NHS trusts could also find themselves open to challenge.

Ministers said they still hoped to use the threat of non-co-operation to have the directive overturned or re-signing to the Social Chapter — which is covered by the British opt-out — at next month's Dublin summit. But Brussels officials said the chances of reversing the directive were remote.

The Government's case at the European Court has been that regulation of working time should not have been agreed as a health and safety measure, over which Britain has no veto. An interim ruling in March went against the

**The new rules**

**What the working time directive promises:**

- Maximum average working week of 48 hours averaged over four months
- Minimum of three weeks paid holiday — and four weeks by 1999
- Minimum daily rest of 11 consecutive hours out of 24
- Rest break after six hours work
- Minimum weekly rest period of 24 hours
- Normal night hours not to exceed eight in any 24-hour period

**Exemptions, derogations and qualifications:**

- None of the above applies to road, rail, sea or air transport workers, or fishing or junior doctors
- The 48-hour limit can be

ignored if employees work longer voluntarily and are not penalised for refusing to do so. It does not apply to managers, family workers or religious officials. States and/or unions can also extend the 48-hour reference period from four to six or 12 months

- None of the other provisions apply to workers employed in industries where continuity of production or service is needed, such as health, media, film, postal, security, telecommunications, emergency and public services and public utilities
- Employees who decide their own working hours can also be excluded

UK, and a Downing Street spokesman said last night he feared the judgment would be "adverse".

The intensity of Britain's resistance to what is regarded as a minimalist piece of legislation has caused incredulity among other member states. Although the directive purports to set a voluntary 48-hour week limit, there are so many "derogations" and exemptions, that it is unlikely to have a significant impact on hours — even in Britain, where workers put in by far

the longest working weeks in the EU.

The TUC complains of a "high risk" that employers will be able to manipulate the terms of the directive so that it is of "no practical benefit to workers". And the CBI's human resources director, John Cridland, accepts that the measure is unlikely to shorten Britain's working week. Instead, he fears employers' time will be "wasted" proving they are covered by exemptions.

Some trade unions hope to exploit the scope allowed under the directive for negotiated agreements with employers on the detailed provisions, arguing that this offers companies the best chance to implement the directive flexibly.

Last week, the MSF negotiated the first such working-time deal, covering 20,000 employees with the Heating and Ventilating Contractors' Association.

But even if the directive only affects working hours at the margins, its holiday provisions are likely to be far-reaching. If the European Court finds against Britain, all workers in the EU should be entitled to at least three weeks' paid holiday, rising to four weeks in 1999. The only exemptions are workers in the transport and fishing industries and junior doctors.

For every other EU state, where there is a legal right to paid holiday, this is small beer. But in Britain, there are 2.5 million workers who have no holiday entitlement at all. Most of those are part-timers. More than four million workers get less than three weeks' holiday and just under six million British employees are entitled to less than four weeks' holiday.

Most of those can expect to benefit from the directive, though the Government yesterday had some hope that the European Court might still find in its favour on the holiday rights provisions, even if not on hours.



Security guard John Downes, who works 12-hour shifts, six days a week, to clear just £170 PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHER THOMOND

## 'I have to put in a 72-hour week'

**Seumas Milne on some of those at the sharp end of the 'tight link between low rates and long hours'**

**IN THE security industry,** 60-hour weeks are considered the bare minimum and John Downes, a 54-year-old security guard from Stockport, considers himself lucky to have got work with a "decent family firm" which only expects a 72-hour, six-day week.

His previous job in security involved an average of 110 hours' work a week at £2.80 an hour. "You had to work those hours to make ends meet," he says.

"It sounds impossible, but you can do it. You get buggered after a while though."

He stuck with the job — as the only way to make the £150 monthly mortgage payments on his former council house — until the firm shut overnight in July and "did a runner" owing him three weeks wages, worth £384. The firm was unregistered and the owners could not be traced.

For the last fortnight, he has been with North West Security, guarding a factory at Trafford Park, Manchester. For six 12-hour shifts a week

at £3 an hour, Mr Downes collects around £170 after deductions. "At least I'm getting one day off a week now," he says. How does he feel about working such long hours? "It doesn't matter what you feel, you've got to do the hours with the rate of pay so low. My wife can't get work and there's no way we could manage on the dole."

Perhaps fortunately for Mr Downes, his industry is covered by one of the many "derogations" from the EU Working Time Directive.

That means his employer should not have to bother with the minimum daily rest period or night work restrictions. And the fact he is working long hours "voluntarily" will save him from the 48-hour limit. He should, though, be covered by the right to paid annual holiday.

The tight link between low pay rates and long hours is also highlighted by the case of a father and son working for a haulage firm in Devon. Transport is one of the industries excluded from the terms of the Working Time Directive, but where long hours are also rampant.

Kevin — their names have been changed because of fear of the sack — is in his 20s, recently married, and putting in a 55-hour week as a forklift driver at £3.84 an hour.

His father Barry is in his 50s and has been a heavy

goods vehicle mechanic for 35 years. He earns £4.80 an hour and last week took home £196 for 49 hours' work. His average is around 53 hours and he usually does a six-day week. If it had not been for a recent heart attack, he would work longer, like most others at his workplace.

Both father and son say they would far prefer to put in fewer hours, but neither can afford to, given mortgage and family commitments. "In my mind, I've gone backwards," Barry says. "It would give me the greatest pleasure to work 40 hours a week — but if I did, I'd go under in six months."

P&P, one of the UK's leading suppliers of IT solutions to business, was appointed a Compaq reseller in April 1984, during Compaq's first month of trading in the UK. Over these

**£979**  
Compaq Desktop 2000 5133 M2800, Intel Pentium 133-MHz processor, 256 kb cache, 1-Gb hard drive, 16-MB memory plus Compaq HQ 14" SVGA monitor.

12 years P&P has grown into one of Compaq's largest System Resellers with capabilities that cover the entire range of Compaq's products, from PCs and Portables to servers and networking.

PSST: HUGE SAVINGS ON COMPAQ COMPUTERS.

**ORDER HOTLINE Tel: 0345 02 38 61**

COMPAG COSTS YOU LESS THAN OTHER COMPUTERS

Offer close to £1,125. Offer valid while stocks last. Photograph shows 15" monitor price quoted refers to specification description only and is inclusive of VAT at 17.5%. Payment is a registered trademark of Intel Corporation.

**Noses to the grindstone**

Long hours	30
Full-time employees working more than 48 hours, UK, millions	30
Spain	27
Germany	25
France	25
Italy	24
Belgium	24
Denmark	24
Sweden	22
Portugal	20
Finland	20
Japan	15

Agreed by voters and legally extended to non-union workers. Generally 4 - 6 weeks.

**The 1997 Guardian Diaries**

choose from two classic formats

**The Guardian Desk Diary**  
Size 258 x 208mm (10 1/4" x 8 1/4"), bound in dark blue leather with a pebbled front cover, gilt edges and ribbon marker plus many pages of useful information: good scale UK and world colour maps, UK road map, inter-city rail map, London underground map, ample space for entering your own information, forward planner etc. Runs from November '96 to January '98. The professional practical diary for busy lives.  
Price £28.30 including VAT and postage.

Also available in the same format but with an eye-deceiving simulated leather cover for £22.85

**The Guardian Pocket Diary**  
Size 158 x 82mm (6 1/4" x 3 1/4"), bound in dark blue bonded leather with two gilt corners, a ribbon marker, printed on high quality cream toned paper. Slim and elegant it slips easily into pockets and handbags yet still has space for much useful information including a notes section, colour maps, mileage charts, international dialling codes, address section and a week to view. Runs from December '96 to January '98.  
Truly THE pocket diary and a fine Christmas present.  
Price £8.25 including VAT and postage.

To: Hurst Morris Associates, Unit 5, Thames Industrial Estate, High Street South, Dunstable, Beds LU6 3HL. Please send me:

..... Guardian Desk Diaries in grained leather @ £28.30  
..... Guardian Desk Diaries in simulated leather @ £22.85  
..... Guardian Pocket Diaries @ £8.25 (Prices include VAT and postage)

I enclose cheque/P.O. for £..... made out to Hurst Morris Associates (with my name and address on the back), or charge my Access/Visa No. ....

Signature ..... Expiry Date ..... / .....

Name .....  
Address .....  
Postcode .....

صلى الله عليه وسلم

# Resignation hits Labour prospects

Rebecca Smithers  
Political Correspondent

LABOUR'S hopes of victory in the forthcoming Wirral South byelection suffered a serious setback yesterday, with the sudden resignation of its parliamentary candidate, Ian Wingfield, over allegations of domestic violence. Dr Wingfield issued a statement at the weekend saying he was stepping down because he feared that "untrue rumours" about the couple would damage Labour's chances of winning the Tory seat, made vacant by the death last week of Barry Porter.

The Mail on Sunday yesterday carried an interview with a former girlfriend, Carolyn Simpson, who alleges Dr Wingfield was violent both towards her and subsequently to Bronwyn McKenna, his former wife.

The Labour Party said yesterday that Dr Wingfield, a 37-year-old divorced, had "done the right thing" by going to see deputy leader John Prescott on Thursday, as soon as he knew of the allegations.

Dr Wingfield, a Southwark councillor and full-time official of the Union of Communication Workers, was due to be officially endorsed as candidate tomorrow.

His resignation is a setback so close to the byelection which is likely to be held in February next year. Assuming that Labour retains Barnsley East in a byelection next month, the party's widely predicted victory in Wirral South would end John Major's parliamentary majority.

The allegations that prompted Dr Wingfield's resignation are embarrassing for Tony Blair, who has been calling for a return to family values, and whose wife, Cherie, has campaigned on behalf of battered women.

The leader of Wirral council, Dave Jackson, who had been helping introduce Chester-born Dr Wingfield to the constituency, said yesterday he was "gobsmacked". He said: "The constituency had gone through the process of selecting a candidate and it will be very difficult to change horses."

Dr Wingfield was not available for comment yesterday, but said in his resignation statement: "I want Labour to capitalise on all the hard work that I and the local party members have already put in to win a convincing victory. That victory could be put in doubt if I continued as candidate."

Meanwhile, Labour's national executive council will tomorrow draw up its shortlist for the Barnsley East byelection triggered by the death of Labour MP Terry Patchett. The candidate will be named on November 19.



Ian Wingfield: "Standing down for good of the party"

# Mandelson voted sexiest politician

Luke Harding

PERHAPS it was the smooth chin. Perhaps it was the eyes, which one admiring female described as "sort of twinkly".

Yesterday Peter Mandelson, Labour MP for Hartlepool, media guru, and "Prince of Darkness", woke up to find himself Britain's sexiest politician. A poll of women voters put Mr Mandelson in first place, with the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, in second place — leaving Mr Mandelson's boss, Tony Blair, in third.

The NOP poll for the Express on Sunday also found that one in seven women said their vote would be swayed by a candidate's attractiveness.

"I will definitely not be growing my moustache back after this," Mr Mandelson declared yesterday. He added: "I always encourage people to be sceptical about opinion polls, but in this case I will make an exception. I have waited for years to be turned from the Prince of Darkness into Prince Charming."

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, came fourth in the poll, scoring three times as many votes as John Major, who came a middling ninth. David Mellor, the MP for Putney and former cabinet minister, came bottom ("How can one man be so ugly?" one woman demanded), while John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, was voted the second least attractive politician.

Mr Mandelson, a 43-year-old bachelor, who lists his hobbies as swimming and country walks, is an unlikely New Labour cover star. Previously he was known for being the chief of the backroom "dark forces" said to be running the party.

But 45 per cent of young women, faced with named photographs of 20 top politicians, chose Mr Mandelson as their favourite — he even came first among Conservative supporters.

"There's something about his eyes. He's smooth, charming, and sort of twinkly," coed Rose Skerme, age 47. "I can see why women go for him."

Another survey of women voters yesterday found that Mr Blair was regarded as "more smarmy" than Mr Major. The MORI poll in the Independent on Sunday said Mr Blair was seen as the most self-important and bossy of the three party leaders, while Mr Major was seen as the least attractive and least inspiring.

Both polls follow a week of speculation as to whether Mr Blair had had his bouffant hair trimmed to make him more attractive to women voters.

# MPs to call for cash to make up World Service shortfall

Andrew Gull  
and Rebecca Smithers

MINISTERS will come under renewed pressure from senior Conservative backbenchers tomorrow to help avert the BBC World Service's funding crisis.

Jeremy Hanley, the Foreign Office minister responsible for the World Service, is to face tough questioning from members of the foreign affairs select committee.

The service is facing a shortfall of about £5 million, and senior officials have warned that it will have to close up to six language services in central Europe, Africa and Latin America unless the Government acts in the Budget.

Tomorrow's meeting coincides with a last-ditch attempt by the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind — now in pre-Budget negotiations with the Treasury — to find the extra £5 million. Most other spending departments have concluded their public expenditure negotiations with the Treasury.

The Government left the service with a £12 million funding gap last year when it slashed its grant. An internal BBC efficiency drive, which included axing more than 100 jobs and reducing services to Sub-Saharan Africa, has found savings of about £5.5 million.

Sam Younger, the service's managing director, warned the committee 10 days ago that further cuts would have a damaging impact — and there was no more scope for gentle pruning.

John Birt, the BBC's director general, appealed for a five-year agreement linked to above-inflation increases in the service's grant-in-aid funding.

MPs on the committee appeared to be sympathetic to reinstating some of last year's cuts. Sir John Stanley, the senior Tory backbencher, suggested the service needed improved funding.

David Howell, the chairman, said the World Service had a valuable role to play in boosting Britain's prestige abroad. During a fact-finding mission to South America, committee members had been concerned that cuts in funding had reduced the BBC's audibility in the region.

# Woodman spare that tree, at any rate until we've all had time for a few more drinks



Forester Martin Hazell a-logging on Saturday in Gernon Bushes, where the legend of a landlord defied helped festivities along PHOTOGRAPH MARTIN GOODWIN

THE Midnight Lopp of Gernon Bushes took place at 7pm on Saturday, and befitting the victory of a commoner over his landlord and the curse of alcohol, it was accompanied by copious imbibing, writes *Mae Kennedy*.

Revising the ceremony after several years, the simple woodland folk — including teachers, computer programmers and forester Martin Hazell — assembled in the ancient wood beside Epping Forest in Essex.

The scruffy trees, with sprouting branches on 10-foot stumps, are hornbeams, first grown as a renewable source of firewood.

Traditionally, to maintain commoners' rights, pollarding had to begin in the first minutes of All Saints' Day, November 1, and according to local legend in 1885 the landowner, one Rev John Matland, invited all those with lopping rights to a party — then plied them with enough alcohol to render them immobile.

But one man, Thomas Willingdale kept his head and returned to the party just after midnight triumphantly waving a branch.

There was no such drama last weekend, but as bonfires blazed and a party mood prevailed, Mr Hazell observed: "We all love trees, but we all love burning them too."

# She can't afford for the business to come crashing down while she's away.

Servers are often at the heart of an organisation's IT operations and an ever-increasing dependence is being placed on their reliability. Whether they are used for applications, databases or networks, server reliability is essential.

This is something Fujitsu - one of the world's largest computer companies - fully understands, and has used its global experience and technological know-how to produce a range of advanced servers to meet the needs of organisations large or small. The models may come in different shapes, sizes, and even colours, but reliability comes as standard.

For more information please telephone FUJITSU ICL Computers on 0345 123 555



Fujitsu i-series servers all use Intel Pentium® processors.



PCs • NOTEBOOKS • SERVERS  
<http://www.fujitsu-computers.com>

The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are trademarks of the Intel Corporation.

World news in brief

Settler arrested to ease Hebron pullout

WITH military redeployment from Hebron expected soon, an extremist Jewish settler has been jailed for two months under emergency regulations that date back to the British mandate. Noam Federman, a leading member of the outlawed and anti-Arab Kach movement, was arrested at his Hebron home in a dawn raid that Israeli police say is part of a pre-emptive strategy to block Jewish extremists from disrupting the army's pullout. This is the first time the rightwing government of Benjamin Netanyahu has chosen to act against one of its own. Mr Federman is at the forefront of those hardline settlers who have threatened to scupper any agreement that allows Palestinian police to enter Hebron. He and his comrades have also warned that they will not hesitate to fire on the "Arab terrorists in police uniform". In another development on the West Bank, Israeli soldiers shot and killed Atallah Amirah, a 36-year-old Palestinian, who was part of a demonstration against the confiscation of Palestinian land. — Skyline Photo, Jerusalem.

Police hold paedophile family

POLICE in Calais are broadening a paedophilia inquiry after they arrested nine members of the same family, suspected of sexually assaulting up to 23 of their children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces. Men and women from the Régier family, ranging in age from 32 to 60, were taken to jails in northern France at the weekend after seven children were taken into care. Police believe the Régiers, who lived in caravans without water or electricity, organised sex sessions at a council flat in Calais where they showed porn films and invited adults to act out their content with their children. While police would not specify whether the paedophile ring extended beyond the family, they believed it was organised by Solange Régier, the 60-year-old grandmother, and her daughter Myriam, aged 33. Police began investigating the family after Myriam's seven children gave their foster parents details of sexual assaults they had endured. The children, aged between three and 14, were taken into care in August after social workers became concerned at conditions in the caravans. — Alex Duval Smith, Paris.

East Timor activists deported

THE MALAYSIAN government began deporting foreign activists yesterday after they participated in a conference on East Timor but denied backing youths who broke up the meeting. The Kuala Lumpur conference was held before tomorrow's anniversary of the killing of at least 50 demonstrators by Indonesian troops in East Timor's capital, Dili, in 1991. An immigration department spokesman at Kuala Lumpur international airport said all but 10 of the activists would leave yesterday, the remainder would leave today. The police freed 26 Malaysian activists yesterday and the Singapore-based of the Australia Broadcasting Corporation, Catherine McGrath, on personal bonds. Mahathir Mohamad, the prime minister, criticised the conference's organisers for going ahead despite a government ban. Malaysian radio reported yesterday. — Reuters, Kuala Lumpur.

Car bomb deaths in Algiers

A CAR BOMB exploded in an Algiers suburb early yesterday, killing at least 10 people and wounding 26, said security officials and radio reports. The bomb went off near a school and many of the dead and wounded were children, Radio France Info reported in France. It also exploded near a full bus and the death toll was expected to rise. No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing, but police suspect Muslim militants. — AP, Algiers.

Sinatra leaves hospital

FRANK SINATRA, aged 69, was released from hospital in Los Angeles on Saturday amid reports of serious illness. His spokeswoman, Susan Reynolds, refused to comment on his illness, saying only that his doctor ordered him released after eight days in Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre. "He is very happy to be home and again thanks everyone throughout the world for the wonderful get-well wishes," she said. He was admitted to hospital on November 1 for treatment of a pinched nerve. But on Friday several local television stations reported he had pneumonia and heart failure. One described his hospital room as being like an intensive care unit. — AP, Los Angeles.

Taliban under fire in Kabul

THE Afghan warlord General Rashid Dostam bombed Kabul airport yesterday as Taliban forces exchanged artillery fire with the troops of the ousted government commander, Ahmed Shah Massoud, north of the capital, witnesses said. They said Gen Dostam's planes made two runs, dropping four high-explosive bombs within the perimeter of the airport, in the north-east of Kabul. Taliban soldiers guarding the airport gates said the raids caused no casualties or damage. A Taliban fighter went to the airport but it was not clear if it caught the planes as they headed back to base. — Reuters, Kabul.

Satanic snub for Castro

THE LATE Chilean president Salvador Allende's daughter Isabel is accompanied by President Fidel Castro of Cuba, pictured left, who laid a wreath yesterday at the tomb of his friend, killed in a coup in 1973 by General Augusto Pinochet. Mr Castro — attending a two-day Ibero-American summit in Santiago — was likened to Lucifer by Gen Pinochet in a television interview at the weekend. "If the government wants to invite Lucifer, it has nothing to do with me," Gen Pinochet said. — AP, Santiago.

Assault trial for Miss Canada

THE reigning Miss Canada International pleaded not guilty on Friday to punching another woman in the face, but will have to wait four months for a trial she says will vindicate her. Danielle House, a 20-year-old nursing student, entered her plea in a provincial court. A one-day trial was scheduled for March 10. She was charged after a fight in a university bar last month. Police said the other woman — who was treated for facial injuries and a chipped tooth — was with Ms House's former boyfriend. — AP, St John's, Newfoundland Women, G2, pages 6-7

A man from the Gideon Society came in after lunch, spoke to the 11-year-olds and gave them free Bibles. It was nearly two hours before that went wrong: some kids waiting for the bus had begun hurling the books at passing motorists, breaking one windscreen. Matthew Engel goes back to school

G2 cover story

Mladic keeps powder dry

Julian Borger in Sarajevo

THE Bosnian Serbs hastily swore in an obscure and relatively junior officer as their new army commander yesterday, amid uncertainty over whether General Ratko Mladic, the wartime military leader indicted for genocide, would accept his weekend dismissal. Gen Mladic, who earned the title "Butcher of the Balkans" after a string of wartime atrocities, held a conclave with senior officers at his headquarters in Han Pijesak on Saturday, but there was no word on their next move. An attempt by Serb political leaders to remove him last year failed when other officers refused to accept his dismissal.

This time the politicians have tried to make a clean break. Late on Friday, the Bosnian Serb president, Biljana Plavsic, announced the replacement of the entire general staff, and yesterday swore in Major-General Pero Colic as army chief. The defence minister, Milan Ninkovic, said the general staff would be moved from Han Pijesak to the political headquarters in Pale. Nato sources said Gen Colic had served as a major in western Bosnia during the war, and the I-For peacekeeping force had had no previous dealings with him. Bosnian Serb political leaders "have reached right down for this one, to find someone who will be compliant to Pale's wishes," a Nato officer said. Gen Colic seems to have been taken aback at his pro-

motion. "I was surprised at the invitation for me to accept one of the most responsible positions at a moment when the military and political situation is extremely difficult. But my conscience told me to accept," he told the Bosnian Serb press agency, SRNA. Nato reacted cautiously. Major Simon Haselock, a spokesman in Sarajevo, said: "We are waiting to see how it will turn out. It is by no means certain now where real power lies." But Nato welcomed "any move which brings the army under greater political control". Many senior I-For officers, however, have praised the Bosnian Serb army's compliance with the Dayton peace accords under Gen Mladic, and may be concerned that under Gen Colic they now face an unknown quantity.

Another unknown in this latest twist in Bosnian Serb politics is the role of Belgrade and the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic. The Bosnian Serb army is an offshoot of the old Yugoslav army and its officers still look to Belgrade for guidance and their pay packet. Some political analysts believe that Gen Mladic is just one of a series of past associations Mr Milosevic has to dump to deodorise his international image and lift "the outer wall" of financial sanctions still in force against rump Yugoslavia. His dismissal came a few days after a visit to Belgrade by the United States assistant secretary of state for human rights, John Shattuck. Mr Shattuck met Presidents Milosevic and Plavsic to remind them of their obligations to

hand over suspects to the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. Gen Mladic has been indicted on two counts by the tribunal. He led the storming of Srebrenica, which was followed by the massacre of thousands of Muslim men, and commanded the 43-month siege of Sarajevo. At one point during the siege, he was overheard ordering his gunners to fire until they "stretched the brains" of the city's encircled population. The general's fall from office brings the prospect of his extradition much closer. Opinion polls showed Slovenia's ruling centre-left Liberal Democrats likely winners in their second general election since they won independence from Yugoslavia in 1991.



Mladic: Sacking brings extradition much closer

Half a million march in Rome • Germans confirm Kohl threat to resign • Finance ministers to meet



Police line a central Rome street on Saturday as an estimated 500,000 middle-class Italians gather to march against government plans for increased taxes. PHOTOGRAPH: GIULIO BROGLIO

Italy in tug of war over 'Euro taxes'

John Hooper in Rome

ITALY'S future in Europe will be decided during the coming weeks by a trial of strength between left and right. It began in earnest at the weekend when a middle-class protest against higher taxes brought several hundred thousand people on to the streets of Rome. At stake is the most radical budget for years — a blueprint for halving the gap between the government's in-

come and outgoings, in a desperate attempt to qualify for European monetary union. Bound by campaign promises to respect Italy's generous welfare system, the prime minister, Professor Romano Prodi, has endorsed a package that would hit the middle classes hardest. On Saturday night, police estimated that between 400,000 and 500,000 protesters gathered in a Rome square to hear Silvio Berlusconi, the leader of the rightwing opposition, inveigh against "fiscal dictatorship". In the south's largest city, Naples, hardline communists held a counter-rally. Organisers put the turnout there at 250,000, but police estimated it at 100,000. The rival blocs are deadlocked over special powers the government wants so that it can set policy on sensitive budget areas, including tax, without parliamentary approval. Italian politics operate according to unwritten rules not unlike those which governed renaissance warfare;

the aim is to avoid rather than provoke conflict by ritualistic displays of force. It is now up to Prof Prodi's centre-left coalition to give way or organise an even more impressive demonstration. Within minutes of the Rome rally ending, the leader of the biggest party in the coalition was preparing the way for concessions. Massimo D'Alema, head of the ex-communist Democratic Party of the Left, said: "When so many Italians take to the streets, that cannot be ignored."

But the prime minister, an economist and Europhile, is committed to putting Italy at the centre of the EU and may prove stubborn. The budget plan has been repeatedly changed as it moves through legislative committees, but so far the government has proposed increasing property taxes and introducing a one-off "eurotax". Trying to appease Mr Berlusconi's followers, the government yesterday proposed taking the tax plans out of the

budget discussions for now to concentrate on spending cuts, which the conservatives demand more of. But Prof Prodi's coalition has not backed off the tax proposals. "The demonstration was by a majority," he said. "There are more of us." Even if the budget is approved intact, Italy is unlikely to meet the Maastricht budget criterion and will probably need a political fudge to gain entry. But if the budget is weakened, not even that may be possible.

New budget battle in Bonn coalition

Denis Staunton in Berlin

READERS of Germany's three government parties were meeting in Bonn last night to try to agree on the latest in a succession of spending cuts, aware that Chancellor Helmut Kohl has threatened to resign because of the atmosphere in his cabinet. The tough measures needed to get the budget deficit within the limit for entry to European Monetary Union have strained the centre-right coalition almost to breaking point. The finance minister, Theo Waigel, admitted last week that there would be a DM3 billion gap in next year's budget because tax revenues would fall short of expectations. The liberal Free Democrat Party (FDP), the smallest in the coalition, will not agree to a tax rise and some of its Bundestag deputies have threatened to vote against the government unless Mr Waigel agrees immediately to their demand for tax cuts in 1998. Government sources confirm stories due to appear in today's editions of the

weekly news magazines Der Spiegel and Focus that Mr Kohl became so infuriated during one cabinet row last week that he threatened to resign. "If this goes on like this, I'm going to [President Roman Herzog]," Focus quotes him as saying. The sources said Mr Kohl's remarks were "more an outburst of anger than an ultimatum", but the chancellor's mood is clearly very black. Such outbursts have been rare in Mr Kohl's 14 years in office. Focus says it is the first time he has threatened to resign since a similar row about taxes in 1988. The employment ministry is expected to be hardest hit by the latest cuts, losing DM1 billion from its training budget. The transport, economics and defence ministries will also suffer. The defence budget is stretched by Germany's participation in the I-For peacekeeping mission in Bosnia and the new cuts have raised fears that Bonn might reconsider its order for 180 Eurofighter jets,

being built jointly by Britain, Germany, France and Spain. The tension in the government reflects the precarious position of the FDP, which has been part of every German government since 1962. It has staked its reputation on its commitment to lower taxes. As one of the most vocal advocates of a strict interpretation of the EMU entry conditions, Mr Waigel is in no position to meet its demands. Mr Kohl rebuked the FDP for political posturing last week, urging it to rally round Mr Waigel. Yesterday the maverick FDP leader in North Rhine-Westphalia, Jürgen Möllemann, rejected Mr Kohl's call for harmony, accusing him of interfering in another party's affairs. FDP support has been the key to Bonn governments for 30 years — it left a coalition with the Social Democrats to support Mr Kohl's Christian Democrats in 1982 — but it would almost certainly end up on the opposition benches if the government collapsed now.

EU 'shadow' currencies told of new exchange rate model

Julie Wolf in Brussels

EUROPEAN Union finance ministers are expected to put the finishing touches today to a new exchange rate mechanism that would link the euro to the currencies of countries not joining economic and monetary union. But the ministers are unlikely to resolve their differences over German calls for a tough "stability pact" to ensure that EMU participants keep their finances under control. EU diplomats predicted that the deadline for the stability pact negotiations would be next month, before a summit of EU leaders in Dublin on December 13 which is expected to agree on the preparations for EMU. The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, has backed a new exchange rate mechanism — to take effect at the start of EMU in January 1999 — after it was agreed that participation would not be mandatory. Mr Clarke has expressed scepticism about taking the pound back into the current ERM or its successor. Other EU countries, however, be-

lieve his position reflects Tory divisions on Europe. Under the system outlined in a report that the ministers are due to adopt today, non-EMU currencies would shadow the euro in wide bands, similar to the present 18 per cent limits. But narrower bands could be fixed for currencies nearly ready for monetary union. The EU's central bank would intervene to keep currencies within their limits, although unlimited intervention would not be guaranteed. The new system is aimed at calming fears that EMU will split Europe in two, with only a core of EMU members achieving currency stability. An agreement on German demands for a budgetary stability pact is proving more difficult. Other EU member states back the idea but they are resisting strongly some of Bonn's proposals. Germany's most contentious plan is that countries with excessive budget deficits can only escape fines if they are in deep recession. Mr Clarke has indicated that he is among those opposed to Bonn's definition of what constitutes a recession.

سكنا من الالهل

# Children sacrificed to war British aid workers get Zaire go-ahead

**M**ILLION children are killed in armed conflict in the past decade as times that seriously injured permanently disabled, Victoria Britain. One more have had ves spoiled forever by war: hunger, disease, spreading from sexual violence and, the trauma of made to fight. It represents a mental crisis of our nation," says a new report on children of the wars of religion which are a pattern of warfare. A major war raged in east year alone. A report — Children War — is to be presented at the UN General Assembly week by the American Grace Machel. She headed two years of search for the secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Mrs Machel draws a grim conclusion: "More than 1 million of the world is being sucked into a desolate and vacant, unregulated terror and violence speak of deliberate mistreatment of children." The report reinforces campaigns by the UN and her aid agencies which condemn that the manufacture of land mines and their use should be banned, that rape should be prosecuted as a war crime, that the recruitment of children under 18 should be outlawed internationally, and that the international community should put more energy into acting on early warnings of conflicts.



Rwanda's children are among the millions around the world whose lives are blighted by war. PHOTOGRAPH: JEFF COULSON

**B**ITISH aid workers will be among the first to re-enter the Zairean city of Goma, after Rwanda gave permission at the weekend for a relief convoy to travel from its territory into eastern Zaire, where 1 million refugees are trapped in ethnic fighting. Rwanda, which is backing ethnic Tutsi rebels fighting the Zairean army and Tutsi rebels inside Zaire, had previously insisted aid should be distributed only to the trickle of refugees arriving back inside Rwanda's borders. However, the aid agencies planning a new Goma operation — including Britain's Save the Children — said yesterday that they were still negotiating with the rebels in Zaire to allow relief lorries in. And the Zairean government rejected attempts by a United Nations special envoy for safe havens to be set up

for the estimated 1.2 million refugees. World powers spent the weekend saying they must urgently help refugees dying in eastern Zaire, but took no action. The UN Security Council agreed a multinational relief force should be deployed, but gave the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, another 11 days to come up with a "concept" for the force. "They will all be dead by the time the UN makes up its mind what to do," a senior UN official in Burundi told Reuters. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, told the BBC yesterday that the international community was likely to send troops to Zaire and a decision could be made this week. Asked if there could be British troops in Zaire within a fortnight, he said: "I think it's certainly possible that there will be an international force that will have been authorised. "Even when you take the de-

cision, it takes a little while. The pure logistics of getting people to the heart of Africa takes time. But I think that's the direction we're moving." London, Washington and several key UN members are dubious about sending troops without a clear definition of their role. President Nelson Mandela, who had earlier spoken of South African involvement, said on Saturday he needed more information from governments around central Africa. The European Union aid commissioner, Emma Bonino, who is holding talks in Zaire today, accused the Security Council of "scandalous indifference." "I really wonder how they can sleep at night," France said equal numbers of European, American and African troops should be involved. But while it is the only one willing to move, Rwanda and the rebels suspect its motives.

## Burma

### Laws mask state abuse

**T**AKING Burma's Child Law at face value and the ruling military State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) appears keen to promote child welfare and development. It gives children the right to participate in social and religious organisations, and freedom of speech. Take instead the experience of Naw Sah Mu, an ethnic Karen girl aged 15, who was taken by the military to work as a porter. She has had a leg blown off by a land mine and seen a friend blinded by shrapnel. Now the harsher reality of Slorc rule starts to emerge. The number of minorities fleeing to camps along the border with Thailand is rising inexorably. The refugees tell of military brutality against every section of the population, including children. More than 100,000 people from three minorities — Karen, Karenni and Mon — are crowded into 26 border camps; half of them are aged under 18. They survive on a meagre subsistence. The children in particular suffer from malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory problems, but at least they are safe. After decades of conflict with minorities seeking autonomy, Slorc forces are relentlessly taking control of their states. However, the end of fighting has not brought with it peace. Young children are forced to work as porters, carrying heavy loads of ammunition and food — the loads increasing as they get older — or sweep roads for mines. Those who escape say beatings are common; those falling sick are left to die. At night, women of all ages routinely face multiple rape by soldiers. Conditions are worst in areas of fighting: troops systematically burn villages and crops to force out their populations. Many are driven into labour camps or reduced to begging, others escape into the hills, running a gauntlet of hunger and disease which is said to kill up to half of those aged under five.

## Sierra Leone

### Orphans tell of brutality

**T**HE orphanage in Sierra Leone's eastern provincial capital, Kenema, is testimony to the effects on children of the five-year civil war. More than half of the 180 children there have arrived in the past three weeks — part of an influx of civilians liberated from the rebel camps of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) by the Kenema, a civil militia of traditional hunters which assists the army. These are some of the victims of a brutal campaign of terror that began as a small incursion in 1981 by the RUF from neighbouring Liberia. The civil war has cost an estimated 50,000 lives and forced almost half the country's 4.5 million people to flee their homes. Despite a ceasefire agreed in April by President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and the RUF leader Foday Sankoh, the violence continues in many parts of the country. The civilians at Kenema, who were kidnapped by RUF rebels and used as slave labour in their camps for up to four years, attest to a life of torture and degradation at the hands of their captors. Children were not spared the brutality. The orphans, aged between three months and 15 years, are emaciated, scarred and mentally disturbed. The rebels made those old enough to walk do farm work, construction jobs and other manual labour. After work they had to scavenge for wild fruits; many became severely malnourished. Nearly all the orphans showed marks from beatings. Nancy Yankuba, thought to be about 10, hesitantly explained that the deep gash on her knee was inflicted because she struggled while being repeatedly raped. Jusu Bamba, aged eight, said his wrist had been broken because he was unable to carry a heavy load. Abdul Bockarie, also aged eight and racked with nervous twitches, said he had seen three people he knew being beaten to death for trying to escape. Some of the children tell of witnessing summary executions and acts of cannibalism. Seven-year-old Umaru Gellu animatedly described how during an attack the rebels cut off the ears of their victims, who were forced to eat them. Afterwards they were executed and their hearts cut out. Most of the children have never been to school. Many hope that relatives will come to claim them and that life once again will return to normal. Claudia McElroy, Kenema

## Bosnia

### Suffering no longer news

**T**HE Bosnian war has not ended for Djana Gecanica. The shooting may have stopped a year ago, but her family still lives in the same freezing, damp freight-container in Mostar, and she still wears bandages over much of her body. Her days are filled with doctors and soldiers. In 1993, when she was aged

## Iran warns to US talks offer

Teheran is ready to exchange messages with the United States through their respective interest sections, the foreign minister said yesterday, after Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, ruled out any talks last week. "No message from the Americans will remain without a reply," Ali Akbar Veisayati said. The US assistant secretary of state, Robert Pelletreau, said before President Clinton's re-election that Washington was interested in opening a dialogue with Iran. Ties between the two states were severed in 1980. — AP.

## Cargo stopped

Greenpeace protesters blocked a ship from unloading its cargo in Gbent harbour yesterday, claiming genetically manipulated US soybeans were mixed with normal soybeans. It was the third ship in a week Greenpeace has held up, following actions in Hamburg, Germany and Antwerp. — AP.

## Sudanese blast

Two people were killed and 39 others, mostly children, were injured in a blast during a male circumcision ceremony at a former army training ground north of Khartoum, a Sudanese newspaper said yesterday. An unexploded hand grenade is believed to have been responsible. — AP.

## Cuban payout

The families of four private pilots killed when their planes were shot down by Cuban jets in February have received \$200,000 each in compensation, paid by the US government out of Cuban funds frozen since 1961, the Miami Herald reported. — AP.

## No nod for Mbeki

Nelson Mandela has denied endorsing his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, as his successor as South African president, saying it was a decision for the African National Congress, state radio reported yesterday. — Reuters.

## Brothel shoot-out

Two men were killed and four injured in a gun fight between masked raiders and customs at a Hamburg brothel early yesterday, police said. The motive for the attack was not known. — Reuters.

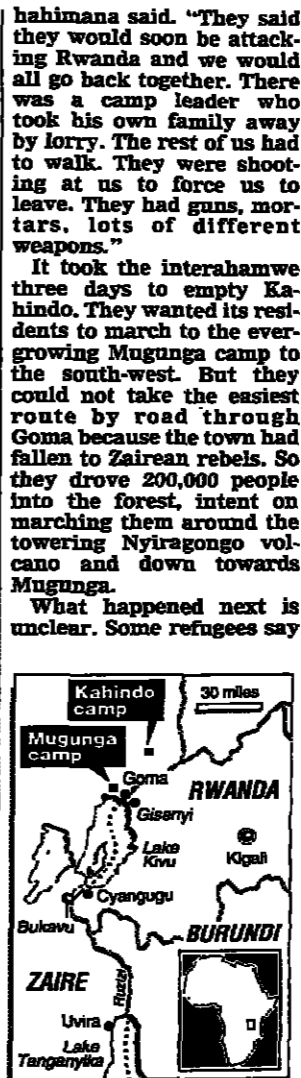
## Airborne suicide

A German man committed suicide yesterday by flying his small aircraft at full speed into the Zugspitze mountains on Austria's border, the Austrian news agency APA reported. Police said Udo Berntinghaus, aged 56, had made clear his intention of suicide after taking off from Saarbruecken on the German-French border. — Reuters.

## Human shields pursued by hunters in the forest

**C**HRISS McGroal in Mutura, Rwanda

**M**ARIE Chantal's face was a blank as tears ran down her swollen cheek and into the bullet wound in her forehead. The 15-year-old Rwandan girl had lived with the pain for three days as she and her mother were hunted through a forest in eastern Zaire. By the time she finally stepped back into Rwanda she was so deeply in shock that tears would not take the easiest route by road through Goma because the town had fallen to Zairean rebels. So they drove 200,000 people into the forest, intent on marching them around the towering Nyiragongo volcano and down towards Mugunga. What happened next is unclear. Some refugees say there was a rebel attack, others that the interahamwe opened fire when refugees tried to break away and head for Rwanda. Ms Muhahimana said the shooting started in the forest. "Many people were wounded and shot dead. We don't know who was doing the shooting. It could have been the interahamwe. There were lots of people with guns who had no uniform. We never saw any rebels. "Marie Chantal was shot in the face, but we managed to escape in the chaos. We saw lots of bodies in the forest. Animals were eating some of them as we left." Emmanuel Habimana, a teacher from northern Rwanda, spent five days in the forest. His bitterness about the interahamwe was clear. "There were many military and interahamwe. They had lots of guns, machetes, knives. They were there to kill anyone who didn't obey them. They killed my grandfather. I don't know where my mother and child are. They're probably dead. "There were many dead children, mothers, many men. In the forest, we were so hungry we were eating grass." Yesterday about 300 people walked back into Rwanda, more than two years after fleeing for Zaire and settling at Kahindo. Today Kahindo camp is deserted by all but the dead. What has happened to most of its former residents is unknown.



## Bhutto and husband soon to face charges

Suzanne Goldenberg reports from Islamabad as an expert arrives to rescue the economy

**P**AKISTAN'S interim government is close to filing charges against the sacked prime minister Benazir Bhutto and her husband, the former investment banker Asif Ali Zardari, the caretaker prime minister, Meraaj Khalid, said yesterday. Being charged could disqualify the pair, accused of corruption and mismanagement, from running in the general election promised for February 3. The World Bank official who is taking charge of the country's finances set out his master plan for restoring the economy at the weekend, a strategy which owes much to the thinking of the institution where he has spent his working life. Javed Burki returned hurriedly from Washington on Friday to become financial adviser to the temporary government, two days after Mr Khalid swore in his cabinet. He has taken leave of absence from the bank, where he is vice-president for the Caribbean and Latin America. Mr Burki's agenda is similar to that of the last caretaker government, to which he also offered financial advice. It began a programme of reforms which were gradually dismantled after Ms Bhutto's government was elected in 1985. The government was dismissed last week by President Farooq Leghari. It ran into trouble with the IMF for its failure to cut a deficit which ballooned to a staggering 6.3 per cent of GDP. In recent weeks foreign exchange reserves have almost halved to \$830 million, and last month the government borrowed 60 billion rupees (about \$232 million) just to stay afloat. The IMF held up emergency loans for five months, forcing Ms Bhutto to announce spending cuts and unpopular tax rises, and to give up the

finance portfolio a week before her dismissal. It was perturbed at the levels of corruption in her administration. IMF officials are expected in Islamabad on Wednesday to resume talks on releasing the loan. Among the alleged misdeeds of Ms Bhutto and her husband is the reported purchase of a \$2.5 million estate in Surrey, complete with an airstrip, where they were building 70 stables for polo ponies. They are also believed to have kept a menagerie, including ponies, camels and llamas, at the hill-top prime ministerial mansion which Ms Bhutto has been ordered to vacate by the end of the week. Mr Zardari is being detained in the grounds of a police college 15 miles from Islamabad, and Ms Bhutto has complained that she has been allowed to visit him only once. Yesterday she asked the court to release him. Mr Burki said he was counting on President Leghari, whose term runs until 1998, to make sure his changes stick. "People have to serve government rather than serve themselves. If the leaders are not working, then the leaders have to be dispensed with," he said. Despite his promise of sweeping changes, Mr Burki made it clear that defence spending, which takes more than a quarter of Pakistan's budget, would not be touched. He indicated that the big feudal landowners, the other pillar of the Pakistani establishment, might have to start paying income tax. "The feudals have to learn, they have to be taught that they have to pay their debt to society."

## Their misdeeds allegedly include the purchase of a \$2.5 million estate in Surrey

provincial governments, tariff reforms, and the sale of state-owned banks. He started work even before leaving Washington, visiting World Bank and the International Monetary Fund colleagues to sort out cheaper long-term loans for Pakistan. "I have been preparing to take over this job since I was 10 years old," he said. Mr Burki's agenda is similar to that of the last caretaker government, to which he also offered financial advice. It began a programme of reforms which were gradually dismantled after Ms Bhutto's government was elected in 1985. The government was dismissed last week by President Farooq Leghari. It ran into trouble with the IMF for its failure to cut a deficit which ballooned to a staggering 6.3 per cent of GDP. In recent weeks foreign exchange reserves have almost halved to \$830 million, and last month the government borrowed 60 billion rupees (about \$232 million) just to stay afloat. The IMF held up emergency loans for five months, forcing Ms Bhutto to announce spending cuts and unpopular tax rises, and to give up the

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE**  
MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA  
(Charity Ref. No. 231323)  
Since 1905 we have shared the grief and eased the pain of countless suffering souls. Last year alone 50,000 found peace with the help of your vital gifts. Most of them died of cancer — but so severely that you would hardly know. Your concern is as encouraging as your generosity and we thank you for your inspiring trust.  
Sister Superior.

**Iran warns to US talks offer**  
Teheran is ready to exchange messages with the United States through their respective interest sections, the foreign minister said yesterday, after Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, ruled out any talks last week. "No message from the Americans will remain without a reply," Ali Akbar Veisayati said. The US assistant secretary of state, Robert Pelletreau, said before President Clinton's re-election that Washington was interested in opening a dialogue with Iran. Ties between the two states were severed in 1980. — AP.

**Cargo stopped**  
Greenpeace protesters blocked a ship from unloading its cargo in Gbent harbour yesterday, claiming genetically manipulated US soybeans were mixed with normal soybeans. It was the third ship in a week Greenpeace has held up, following actions in Hamburg, Germany and Antwerp. — AP.

**Sudanese blast**  
Two people were killed and 39 others, mostly children, were injured in a blast during a male circumcision ceremony at a former army training ground north of Khartoum, a Sudanese newspaper said yesterday. An unexploded hand grenade is believed to have been responsible. — AP.

**Cuban payout**  
The families of four private pilots killed when their planes were shot down by Cuban jets in February have received \$200,000 each in compensation, paid by the US government out of Cuban funds frozen since 1961, the Miami Herald reported. — AP.

**No nod for Mbeki**  
Nelson Mandela has denied endorsing his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, as his successor as South African president, saying it was a decision for the African National Congress, state radio reported yesterday. — Reuters.

**Brothel shoot-out**  
Two men were killed and four injured in a gun fight between masked raiders and customs at a Hamburg brothel early yesterday, police said. The motive for the attack was not known. — Reuters.

**Airborne suicide**  
A German man committed suicide yesterday by flying his small aircraft at full speed into the Zugspitze mountains on Austria's border, the Austrian news agency APA reported. Police said Udo Berntinghaus, aged 56, had made clear his intention of suicide after taking off from Saarbruecken on the German-French border. — Reuters.

**Bhutto and husband soon to face charges**  
Suzanne Goldenberg reports from Islamabad as an expert arrives to rescue the economy  
PAKISTAN'S interim government is close to filing charges against the sacked prime minister Benazir Bhutto and her husband, the former investment banker Asif Ali Zardari, the caretaker prime minister, Meraaj Khalid, said yesterday. Being charged could disqualify the pair, accused of corruption and mismanagement, from running in the general election promised for February 3. The World Bank official who is taking charge of the country's finances set out his master plan for restoring the economy at the weekend, a strategy which owes much to the thinking of the institution where he has spent his working life. Javed Burki returned hurriedly from Washington on Friday to become financial adviser to the temporary government, two days after Mr Khalid swore in his cabinet. He has taken leave of absence from the bank, where he is vice-president for the Caribbean and Latin America. Mr Burki's agenda is similar to that of the last caretaker government, to which he also offered financial advice. It began a programme of reforms which were gradually dismantled after Ms Bhutto's government was elected in 1985. The government was dismissed last week by President Farooq Leghari. It ran into trouble with the IMF for its failure to cut a deficit which ballooned to a staggering 6.3 per cent of GDP. In recent weeks foreign exchange reserves have almost halved to \$830 million, and last month the government borrowed 60 billion rupees (about \$232 million) just to stay afloat. The IMF held up emergency loans for five months, forcing Ms Bhutto to announce spending cuts and unpopular tax rises, and to give up the

A system on trial
Parliament itself is under scrutiny

DAVID WILLETS and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith are an unlikely pair to be called before a quasi-judicial body to account for their behaviour. The one is a high-flying policy wonk, the other a genial and likeable grandee.

The hearing before the Standards and Privileges Committee is the first serious test of whether Parliament can possibly live up to the expectations of the public in the wake of Lord Nolan's first report.

Today's case came about as a direct result of the aborted libel case brought by Neil Hamilton against the Guardian. We now know that for three weeks before the Guardian published its main charges against Hamilton there was a certain amount of panic within Whitehall and Westminster.

The day this paper published its main charge against Hamilton — the claim that he and Smith accepted quite sizeable sums of money to ask parliamentary questions — Mr Willetts, then a Government whip, met with Sir Geoffrey, Chairman of the Members' Interests Committee, to discuss how they could best stifle the expected complaint against Hamilton.

Mr Willetts was, according to assorted leaks, pleased that he was new to the job of whip at the time and innocent of the mysteries of the House.

Sir Geoffrey is more problematical. He may well argue that this was one of a number of conversations that he had around that time and that it is outrageous to suppose that they had any bearing on his conduct as Chairman.

Not even in Eastern Europe do judges any longer discuss with the Government the "suitable" outcome of a court case. Yet here it is in black and white: the judge and jury (Sir Geoffrey) discussing the options with the Government (Mr Willetts) for stifling the charges.

Some commentators and politicians have shrugged all this off in a world-weary way. Haven't whips always sought to nobble select committees? They yawn that Labour has done the same for years.

There is one final aspect to the current proceedings which must surely mystify the reasonable observer: the recent appointment to the committee of Sir Archie Hamilton. Sir Archie effectively acquitted his namesake, Neil, of any impropriety in an interview on the Today programme in April 1995.

THE Return of Corporal Punishment sounds like — and would become — were it to ever happen — a sequel to the Life and Death of Colonel Blimp. Opposed though I am to the idea of legalised brutality and official approval for those who choose to inflict physical pain, what irritates me most about the proposal to revive the cane is the idea that education is best moved forward by stepping back into the past.

Lord Nolan's report said that, for self-regulation to work "the public needs to see that breaches of the rules by its elected representatives are investigated as fairly, and dealt with as firmly by Parliament, as would be the case with others through the legal process."



Letters to the Editor

Gains and losses in life's lottery

YOUR piece on how specific MPs feel about the distribution of lottery funding omits one important fact: good causes are wholly dependent on applicants coming to them for funding.

It became apparent to the Sports Council early in the distribution process that applications were not being received from specific areas of the country.

PAI has already had a huge impact. Seven out of 10 of the largest awards made by the Lottery Sports Fund are to Priority Areas, with hundreds more in the pipeline.

Derek Casey, Chief Executive, Sports Council, 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 9QP.

Quick fix and slow death

MAN'S extremity in central Africa could prove to be God's opportunity, if it results in short-term humanitarian aid being integrated within a long-term economic programme for the region in a reformed UN.

A Marshall Plan should be implemented which gives aid, not loans, to the Great Lakes countries with the incentive to jump-start their economies to make them more independent.

Alternatively, a 10 per cent levy on world military expenditure would yield \$77 billion.

Getting there
CAN cyclists and walkers mix? (Hikers battle bikers over cycle network, November 5). Of course, if both parties are courteous and considerate, and if the routes are well-designed, they mix well in other countries.

WALKERS and cyclists also need to work together to overcome a bigger problem: the relentless threat to countryside peace and tranquility which comes from increasing numbers of motor vehicles.

When, a few years ago, I bought my first BMW I noted an immediate change for the worse in the behaviour of some drivers around me and this has continued.

Sex, violence and votes: four of the best on the caning debate

DEEPER into Zaire away from the fighting, is it not possible to supply them from the Zaire side? Kinshasa or other points of entry into Zaire must be practicable centres for launching a rescue operation.

AS THE refugees flee deeper into Zaire away from the fighting, is it not possible to supply them from the Zaire side? Kinshasa or other points of entry into Zaire must be practicable centres for launching a rescue operation.

ISN'T IT ODD that France which only a few months ago in a joint operation with Belgium, set up an arms factory in Eldoret in western Kenya, accuses the international community of being "apathetic" for failing to agree with them on a multilateral mission in Zaire/Rwanda?

Getting there
CAN cyclists and walkers mix? (Hikers battle bikers over cycle network, November 5). Of course, if both parties are courteous and considerate, and if the routes are well-designed, they mix well in other countries.

Both your journalists and correspondents have lashed themselves into a fury, or is it a sexual passion (they are unclear as to whether it is the pain of the child or the supposed pleasure of the administrator they despise) on the subject of causing (or not) the big stick, October 31 and Letters, November 9.

As a child in primary school I received the stick once on my hand. I was not terribly afraid of it. One used to worry more about the whip, because whereas a cane lay in the cupboard, the board were visible and work oriented.

THE dimmest child in today's classes has long ago grasped that no saner exists. He may do what he will, attack teachers, attack fellow pupils and kill the headmaster. No one can do anything about him.

Presumably those members of the Government who do not toe the party line in the forthcoming vote on caning will experience the whip? David Hughes, Ovington Drive, Southampton PR8.

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: A mountain friend has directed his ashes should be scattered on Pen, his favourite Lakeland summit. It is also, certainly, one of mine — a remote delight, possibly the least-visited summit in the district although only a rough half-mile away from the usually-crowded top of Scafell Pike.

There's a Heaton Cooper painting of Pen hanging on a wall in my drawing room — the upper Esk rushing through boulders in the foreground, the sun illuminating the steep front of Esk Buttress and the knobby top of Pen, just above, with the dark summits of the Pike and Ill Crag just shrouded in mist.

I've been up there several times — first 30 years ago, after a day's climbing on Esk Buttress — but have never seen anyone else in the area. There are no tracks to point the way and although the 2,600 feet high summit is grazed by a neat cairn, there are no beer-can rings, orange peel or sandwich wrappings to indicate the previous presence of civilised man. On all sides, little to see except crag and scree — not even grass. One visit, ticking off the "two-thousanders" on a nasty day of wind and rain, involved a 700 feet descent of steep scree from the Broad Crag col and a scramble to the top, with the reward of a brief lifting of the cloud on the summit. Far below, suddenly revealed, lay the tumbled wilderness of upper Eskdale and straight across the ravine of Little Narrows, the black cliffs of Ill Crag looking quite impenetrable but, as we discovered on a later occasion, no more than a sporting scramble. A better way from Scafell Pike may be to descend steeply south-east from the summit but the best approaches are from upper Eskdale striking north from the river just to the left of the fine cliff of Esk Buttress, marked Dow Crag on the map. Higher up Little Narrows, an other remote two-thousand, Rough Crag, probably only visited by devoted tickers of summits and not as dramatic a summit as Pen. My friend had well chosen the last resting place for his bones.

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

THE Return of Corporal Punishment sounds like — and would become — were it to ever happen — a sequel to the Life and Death of Colonel Blimp.

Opposed though I am to the idea of legalised brutality and official approval for those who choose to inflict physical pain, what irritates me most about the proposal to revive the cane is the idea that education is best moved forward by stepping back into the past.

There is a group of Tory MPs who want Britain to be governed by anachronisms. They support flogging, not because there is any evidence that it produces better citizens or even more obedient pupils, but because it is the punishment which they associate with the golden age of defiance. Most of them are bogus gardeners whose knowledge of public schools is limited to what they have learned from Billy Bunter stories. None of them dare admit that, at least in part, the violence which afflicts our society is the eminent by-product of the everyman-for-himself society which they have helped to create.

Thanks to Gwen Eimhirst, who wrote to me from south Yorkshire, I have learnt that the case against corporal punishment has been made by sensible people since civilisation began. Her letter included a quotation from Socrates on the character of Athenian youth during the 5th century before Christ. "They have had manners, contempt for authority, disrespect for older people. Children nowadays are tyrants. They no longer rise when their elders enter their room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company, gobble their food and tyrannise their teachers."

Although Socrates grumbled about moral degeneration in the manner of a home counties retired colonel, he did not prescribe a home counties retired colonel's remedy. "No learning ought to be learned by bondage... dear friend, bring not up your children by Compulsion and Fear but by Pleading and Pleasure." The Socrates view on these matters, Mrs Eimhirst told me, was accepted and adopted by Roger Ascham, Henry VIII's choice of tutor for Princess Elizabeth. "Love is fitter than Fear. Gentleness better than Beating to bring up a child in Learning. Not even the Tory floggers will want to argue that the Ascham method was a failure. They regard his pupil, Queen Elizabeth I, as a 16th century Margaret Thatcher.

Mrs Eimhirst began her erudite note with a charitable enquiry. Why is it she asked, that apparently intelligent people want to return to a self-evidently dangerous and damaging way of imposing discipline? The problem with people like her is that they are pathologically incapable of descending to the level which allows them to understand what is now going on in the Tory Party. A few backbenchers are stupid enough to believe that the cane and the strap might solve all the problems which are created by poor buildings, low teaching morale, domestic poverty and the collapse of discipline which invariably follows incarceration in institutions that are obviously intended to house pupils who have been written off by the educational establishment. But much of the debate about state flogging has nothing to do with school discipline.

The worst of the participants in the argument — naturally enough, including the Home Secretary — have decided that support for hitting little boys across their hands and bottoms is necessary for the protection of their right-wing reputations. I knew, as soon as Gillian Shephard said that she was not averse to the occasional slap, that Michael Howard would make a statement with the text: "spare the rod and spoil my chance of being supported by the back bench boneheads when the leadership election comes".

The way that half the Tory Party is posturing around the cane — one of the lozenges of unreconstructed conservatism shows how much the idea of dumping John Major is already in their minds. And the way in which the Prime Minister has responded to their manoeuvres confirmed that he deserves to be dumped. There may have been occasions, before Gillian Shephard's caning clarification, when a cabinet minister explained to the House of Commons the difference between her "personal view" on a policy item and the Government's "official position" on the subject. But I cannot recall it. Nor can I recall a Secretary of State previously devaluing the Prime Minister's reputation as she did on that day by describing John Major's attempt at reform and re-assertion of his authority as an equally "personal" position. But then, for most of my 32 years in Parliament, the government of the day was trying to run the country not visibly disintegrating. From Kenneth Clarke on monetary union to Michael Portillo on almost everything, collective responsibility has broken down. The rats cannot even agree on the best ways to leave the sinking ship.

Fortunately, if we are to believe John Major's protestations that he is not in favour of systematic child beating, his nervous conscience will be saved by the Labour Party. He and those ministers who can be persuaded to support him will troop into the Opposition lobby behind the Opposition and defeat the attempt, supported at least in their hearts by most of his honorable friends to return to the good old days when Wackford Squares was still a member of the Headmasters' Conference. But it will be a terrible illustration of what the country must endure for the next six months. Real government has been suspended. Some ministers are battling to reduce the size of the Conservative defeat. The rest are jockeying for position when the defeat is over.

And it is not only policy on corporal punishment which, between now and May, will be treated by Conservatives as no more than a vehicle for personal survival and possible advancement. If it were, we could simply laugh at their folly as the Opposition takes the lead — as it has done over the pedastar register and stalking — and ensure that the national interest takes precedence over the claims of Tory pretenders. But on issue after issue which House of Commons, John Major will try to accommodate the warring factions within his party and save his skin. Our only consolation is that the more he wriggles and squirms to save his political life, the more certain he is to lose it in the spring.

من الاموال



Islamabad Diary

Supanne Goldenberg

MAGINE this: you are up until 1.30 in the morning trying to close that important deal. You crawl into bed, and then, just as your weary head is sinking into the pillow, the telephone rings. It's a friend telling you that all the airports in the country are closed. If you are Benazir Bhutto, such last week prime minister of Pakistan, your first reaction would be to ring the president to ask what's up. Which is what she did, and in her version of events, a slightly embarrassed president, Farooq Leghari, replied: "Actually, Bibi, I am sorry, I have taken the decision and the dismissal proclamation is on its way."

The ghost in the political machine

Commentary Linda Grant

H E'S been there for as long as we can remember in his giant top hat and his crusty satins, the last relic of Swinging London teetering off down Carnaby Street in the last Union Jack wisecracker. He's a national treasure now, always there in the final line-up, waving joke-shop giant hands and signs with silly slogans behind the heads of the candidates who have to put up with him and never lose their frozen smiles. Screaming Lord Sutch, who turned 56 yesterday, and his Monster Raving Loony party, 33 years young and still going strong, is the soul of British anti-establishment politics — impotent and glorying in its ineffectiveness, a genuine English eccentric and much-loved institution, reinforcing our sense of ourselves as always being game for a laugh. That's British democracy for you, we say, pointing at the screen on election night. Yes, he cheers us all up and occa-

plies a place in subversive life lower than Private Eye but slightly above those signs in offices that read "You don't have to be mad to work here but it helps". The weekend's papers with their congratulations to Screaming also carried sobering news of the death of Mario Savio at 33, the day after the American election. Of heart failure, it was reported, which might really have been a broken heart. Savio was the student who, in 1964 during the Berkeley free speech movement in California, stood up and said the words which stood for everything that some people nurtured by sixties radical politics still believe more than a quarter of a century later. Savio's metaphor, in the early dawn of computers, was still industrial, in the spirit of shop floor factory production. He saw society as a vast machine which all of us are operating but which is being used for purposes so odious that there comes a time when "You've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon all the apparatus and you've got to make it stop". Savio and his fellow-students had just returned from a summer of voter registration in the south where three young civil rights activists had been murdered by segregationists. The authorities at

now willing merely to use it as a nuclear weapon to hold over the heads of Tory peers who oppose his plans for Scottish and Welsh devolution. Ah yes, nationalism. The Big Idea of the nineties. Three years ago novelist James Kelman, inadvertently revealing the fault line that joins Edinburgh to Belgrade, the "indigenous Scottish people," he said, were fed up with the oppressive English colonial powers. So, Mr Kelman, do these "indigenous Scottish people" include the Scottish Jews, the Scottish Asians, the Scottish Afro-Caribbeans? And do the colonial English include those of Scottish, Irish or Welsh descent or the millions of 20th century immigrants from abroad and their descendants who haven't a cell of English blood in their veins? And what is radicalism up

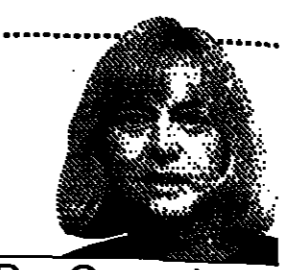
and strategies of direct action honed a quarter of a century ago in the grounds of the Pentagon, but little or none is in favour of human beings. For we have gone out of fashion. We are too corrupt, impure, greedy and flawed to command the attention of today's rebellious young. The burgeoning planet and destroyed it with the fossil fuels they dug do not deserve, apparently, to inherit the earth. The machine still lumbers on unstopped but not, a few still believe (in an immediate refusal to surrender to cynicism), unstoppable. We now have a large mass of people in Britain and America, who, post-industrialism, have no obvious economic purpose. Lacking a need for much unskilled and semi-skilled labour, we have nothing for them to do and no particular interest in their future apart from denying them benefits and carrying them with lectures about their morals. So they lead hopeless lives of poverty and crime, the most humiliating reliance on the last fragments of state benefit alleviated by the only escape available, into the kind of drugs that don't heighten your consciousness but obliterate it. It is this growing, jobless, homeless underclass, seeing crime and crack as a logical response to their conditions which has, in its way, heeded the second part of Savio's message and is making it happen, the cause of the frightened angst that currently pervades the media. "And you've got to indicate to the people who run the machine, that unless you're free, the machine will be prevented from working at all." Future shock indeed.

We are too corrupt, greedy and flawed to command the attention of our rebellious young

to while everyone blathers on in an irrelevant and poisonous self-righteous debate about morality while Tony Blair and Ian Hislop are on their knees in church? You have your choice, sir or madam. Which do you want to see, calves or trees? There is indeed passionate anger among the young in Britain and a justified alienation from party politics, seeing right through New Labour for what it really is, Tory-centrism in a new frock. There is a readiness to use the tactics

Linda Grant's novel The Cast Iron Shore has won the David Higham Prize for fiction.

Too many flies on the wall, all wanting a story

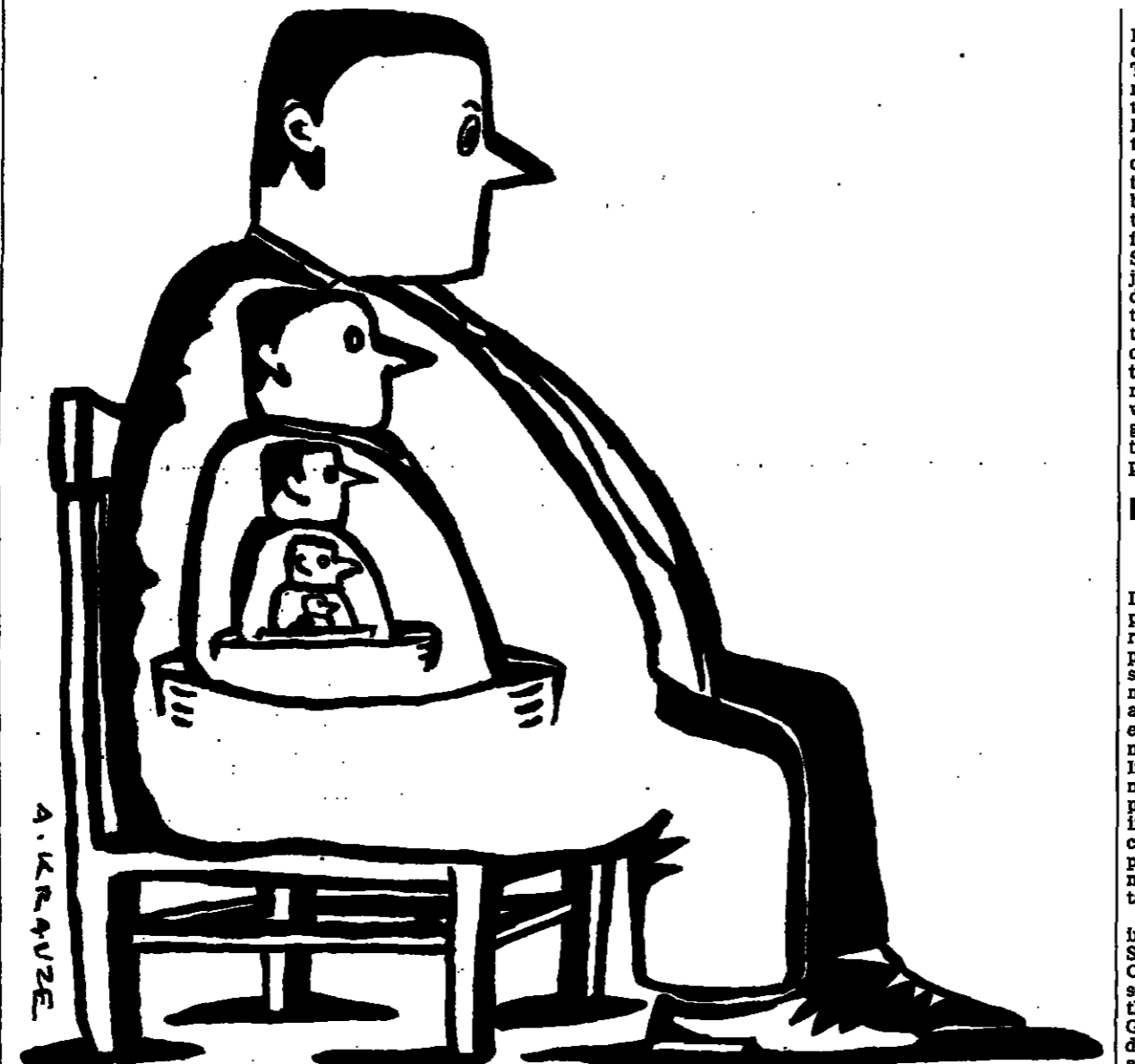


Ros Coward

THERE'S a new feature in the small ads: questions like "Ever had an obsessive lover?" "Seen your parents murdered?" "Quarrelled with your neighbours?" These are not placed by social services, but by documentary makers. They use the lives of ordinary people as the staple of documentaries, and the Kates can't find them in their address books. Such documentaries have been praised, intimately looks at the lives of individuals or institutions are thought to be entertaining and insightful. But according to television trade magazine Broadcast, the flagging documentary series of all channels — the BBC's Modern Times and Inside Story, Channel 4's Cutting Edge, and ITV's Network First — are producing identical programmes. They use the same style, sometimes the same directors and often tackle the same subjects. Discontent is not confined to marginalised directors who know there are other ways to make a documentary about

programmatically approved the programme but were shocked at the public reaction to their digested views. They were forced to resign. Many documentary subjects are just ordinary individuals facing difficult moments. Few have the clout to challenge how they have been represented and many are made to look complete prats. The reception of a recent programme on betrayal showed none of Furneaux's enlightened tolerance — tabloids savaged the adulterers as responsible for this country's moral decline. A programme-maker once told me that documentaries are what the middle classes do to the working classes. Nowadays, they do it to the aristocracy as well. Social documentaries presume an audience which doesn't know what it's like to keep a dangerous dog or run a state hospital. Network First's Paul Curley makes this explicit: "Absolute nirvana for ITV is a huge audience with high ABCs". That group does not figure much in documentaries. They are canny enough to assess the risks involved in consenting to filming. Since the Royal Opera House's devastating output, organisations also have begun to suspect the documentary.

IF THE documentary audience shuns participation, revealing programmes about others are still in great demand. Once there was only Forty Minutes each week, now it's 40 hours. The competition is making documentary into a repetitive format. Even hard-edged series like Panorama are adopting the individual story style and different approaches are pushed to the margins of the schedule. In Tom Sturges' documentary on Africa's war-traumatised children, shown at midnight, Paul Watson, one of the original flies-on-the-wall, identifies the problem: "What we have got is like Hollywood — if a film is a success then you have to copy it." Comparisons with Hollywood are apt as documentaries become increasingly fictional. Executives won't commission anything without a story, especially an anecdotal one. If all documentary film-makers now attend Robert McKee's classes on Hollywood narrative structure, he insists on characters to identify with, dilemmas exposing moral character and progressive movement. This is limiting and self-defeating. Applied to the "intimate" life of the Victoria & Albert Museum, it yielded strong characters and an evolving story about museum charges. But what about the issues of who museums are for and should there be charges? Applied to individual lives, this fictionalisation is more worrying. It started as a way of making issues seem more personal. It has become a hunt for ever stranger lives.



Should Parliament investigate sleaze internally? Conrad Russell argues that MPs should not be exempt from the ordinary rule of law

Insider trade-off

L ORD Nolan has stressed that the disciplinary procedures of most professions have recently been overhauled to introduce "equitable and open procedures with independent elements". He is right that this is the way to approach the hearing of the Committee on Standards and Privileges in the case of Neil Hamilton and David Willetts. In my own profession, the academic, the resolution of that overhaul has been that allegations of serious crime should be left to the courts of law. Is there any good reason why Parliament should not adopt the same conclusion? The objections to hearings in internal disciplinary tribunals are familiar. They do not normally have recognised and orderly procedures. Vital points like the nature of the burden of proof, the privilege against self-incrimination or the rules on admissibility of evidence are not always clear. The procedures of the courts may be complicated, but they have evolved for a very good reason: the protection of the rights of the innocent. Very few, if any, internal tribunals can match them. Internal tribunals must always risk being influenced by insider values. An institution's insider values, like the goodwill of a business, may be a vital asset, and should

not be lightly threatened. But when they are set in the scale against public interest on a criminal charge, it is, or it should be clear, which should take priority. And insider values must essentially be influenced by concern for the reputation of the institution. That is always likely to conflict with concern to get at the truth. Every company which has ever decided not to prosecute a fraudster, because it is frightened of the damage to the case might do to the company's reputation knows the importance of this concern. It diminishes the deterrent force of the criminal law, and that may be harmful for the country as a whole. We must also always be wary of an institution's capacity for showing tenderness to its own. This was captured by that old mock-history-book, 1066 And All That, in its description of trial by peers: "that barons should be tried by a jury of other barons, who would understand." They have not always "understood", but perhaps justice has been done in the cases where they did not as much as in cases when they did. So all internal tribunals suffer from conflict of interest. This is especially true in a modern parliament because of the operation of the parties and their organisations. The counsel to the House Judi-

In law, the whole edifice of parliamentary privilege rests on the Bill of Rights of 1689. That can no longer be regarded as sacrosanct, since this Parliament, through the Defamation Act, has chosen to amend the privilege clause of the Bill of Rights in order to allow Neil Hamilton to bring his libel action against the Guardian. There is surely force in the case that Lord Simon of Glaisdale (a retired judge of considerable academic standing) has argued to a House of Lords, which is that if we are reviewing part of the edifice of privilege in the Bill of Rights, we should review it all. We should ask whether there is still any good reason for insisting that the courts cannot review any proceeding in Parliament.

THERE is nothing wrong with upholding old laws if the reason for those laws still operates. In the case of parliamentary privilege it does not. The reason for parliamentary privilege, and it was a very strong reason, was to protect members of parliament against bullying by the government — and the government was then the monarch. In particular, it was to protect members against being imprisoned for things they said inside the parliamentary chamber: it was to protect the privilege of free speech, the most vital of all parliamentary privileges.

That is out of date, because, in the illuminating phrase of Sir Clifford Boulton, former Clerk of the Commons, "the sovereign power moved into the house and took it over". Government bullying is now done by the Prime Minister and the Whips. It is done by the very interest the parliamentary majority has been elected to uphold. That is why anyone who attempts to use parliamentary privilege to protect MPs against a government is only creating a conflict of interest. It would be a very unrealistic MP who appeared to parliamentary privilege for protection against his own Whips.

If modern MPs need a privilege against Parliament as a shield, let the Bill of Rights be due for review because the reason for the privilege clause in it no longer operates: it cannot now do what it was intended to do.

However, still in operation are the twin needs to protect freedom of speech and to punish crime committed in the course of a proceeding in parliament and we must review the ways in which they could best be achieved. We could go down the American route of adopting a Special Prosecutor, though his accountability would have to be very carefully defined. We could follow Lord Nolan's hint and set up a tribunal with "independent elements". These might be provided by the Law Lords, whose immunity from party politics is total. We could follow the continental routes and lift the parliamentary immunity of a member who came under suspicion. Or we could go the whole hog, and simply refer all accusations of crime in Parliament to the ordinary courts of law. One of these things must be done, and we must hope Parliament will not do the damage to its own reputation before it realises that.

Conrad Russell is a Liberal Democrat spokesman in the House of Lords

Central Africa Frightened children need your help

The crisis in Central Africa threatens to become the worst in Africa this century. Millions of children and their families need urgent help. Save the Children has a long history of providing relief and support to children and their families who are in danger. Your money will help save lives. Save the Children is working in Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and Uganda and is ready to help in Zaire. Families are being torn apart by the conflict. We are working to bring children and their families back together again. We are providing blankets and emergency shelter and are planning to airlift essential medical supplies later in the week. Please send a donation today — post the coupon below or call us on 0171-703 5400.

Save the Children logo and donation form with fields for name, address, and donation amount.

CHEAP LABOUR NEW LIFE FOR BRITAIN advertisement featuring a cartoon character.



Marje Proops... a striking woman, with a look all her own, who never lost her ambition

Marje Proops

Doyenne of agony aunts

If Marje had been asked to devise for her tombstone the single line that would sum up her life, I suspect it would have been "She worked for the Mirror". Her pride and pleasure in her role at the most important and valuable of Britain's popular newspapers were always endearing as, in her later years, when Robert Maxwell made her a director of Mirror Group Newspapers, was her obvious satisfaction.

It was Marje who made the potentially highly dubious occupation of a problem page correspondent into one to be taken seriously rather than jeered at. There have been "agony aunts" (and uncles) almost since printing was invented, but not until Marje's time were there any feature articles about the people who did the job and how they did it.

She managed for most of her career to avoid upsetting anyone: once on a TV debate between Marian Meade, a most militant feminist and Arianna Stassinopoulis, an equally militant non-feminist, she said she "agreed with both" and managed to make the statement stand up. No mean feat. She didn't worry about her few critics, but she did worry about those who worried. And she did it with great aplomb and real compassion in a way that reduced the worries considerably. And not just for the person whose letter she was answering on her page; every one who read her column took

away some comfort or information or awareness. She was born over a greengrocer's shop in Woking and grew up over a pub in Hoxton, where her father became landlord, an unusual occupation for a Jew. Her mother worked hard to give her girls (Marje had one sister, Jo), a middle class upbringing, with nice clothes, many schools. It was at one of the latter that Marje, until then called Rebecca, was sneered at as Becky the Jewess, and started to use her second name instead. That sort of anti-Semitism informed her life in many ways, giving her a feisty determination to fight for the underdog and a lively political awareness (she became an active member of the Labour Party and later helped her close friend Shirley Williams found the SDP). It did not, however, make her deeply religious. In many attitudes she was closer to her husband, Sydney, who was a humanist. She was not in any sense trained to be an adviser. Her gifts were artistic, as was her

further education at art school, and her first newspaper work was providing fashion drawings. This led in 1939 to Hugh Cudlipp employing her as resident fashion artist for the Daily Mirror, where he by-lined her Sylvia and advised her never to tell anyone her age. She never did (it was one of the few who knew just how old she was — but only because I knew members of her family).

It was only when one of Marje's colleagues on the women's page of the Daily Herald, which she joined in the early 1940s as fashion editor, died and left her mail piling up on her desk that Marje read her letters. She found them so distressing that she set out to educate herself in order to be able to answer them. With the help of a psychiatrist, Dr Eustace Chessler, a well-known sexologist, she did it exceedingly well. She was married to Sydney for more than 50 years, calling him "Proopsy" and quoting him often, and seeming to be an adored and adoring wife. But in 1992 she caused an uproar by approving a biography in which it was made clear that she hated Proopsy, had lived a sexless life with him, and had had a lover for 20 years. It startled many that she "came clean" at her advanced age, but it was of a piece with her character. She never lost her ambition, and had no qualms in unseating a younger rival on the Sunday Mirror. She proved in all this that age is not likely to change a personality and in this she showed herself close to her readers in experience: her only child, Robert, was born when Proopsy was away at war and he didn't meet his father until he was five, so Marje shared the painful experience of many of her readers; she lived as a single mother and later knew the pressures of being a working mum; and she drew on those experiences just as she had drawn on her jealousy of her sister, "the pretty one". She wasn't. She was a striking woman who had a look all her own. Infinitely preferable to merit prettiness.)

Claire Rayner  
Marje Proops, problem page editor; died November 10, 1996

Robert Rapoport

A global perspective on family values

ROBERT Rapoport, who has died aged 72, was a social anthropologist who dissected the modern family and highlighted the global impact of changing values. His death, as a result of falling off a ladder while repairing storm damage to a conservatory roof, leaves what could be his most important work *Families, Children and the Quest for a Global Ethic* uncompleted.

Many of these considerations had their roots in his awareness of how families and communities have reciprocal influences. He was probably the first scholar to examine closely the ways in which communities and institutions can operate as families. He showed how they provide direct support and also shape what is held to be significant. In particular, in his book *Community as Doctor* (1960) he revealed the workings of the original therapeutic community at Belmont Hospital, Surrey.

was no one or simple way of resolving conflicts between personal and organisational demands. He later developed these insights to show the increasing conflicts between parochial benefits and global harm that are enshrined in domestic activities. In the early 1970s he founded the Institute of Family and Environmental Research with his wife, to create an independent organisation that could demonstrate through its publications and seminars the real possibilities for change through community intervention in the workings of families. This became a unique focus for non-dogmatic views on the social significance of family processes, expressed for example in *New Interventions for Children and Youth: Action Research Approaches* (1987).



Robert Rapoport... one of the first to examine closely the ways in which communities can operate as families

Earl Granville

Lairding it over the Western Isles

THE 5th Earl Granville Granville James Leveson Gower, owner of North Uist Estate and a cousin of the Queen, has died aged 77. He was a former Lord Lieutenant of the Western Isles and held the Military Cross for war service with the Coldstream Guards.

adopted the island as their principal home, the Granvilles moved quickly at Callianish, in a house designed by Martyn Beckett, in the style of the quadrangle at Gordonstoun School. The local view of Granville himself was fairly benign, although the hand of the estate was often in unwelcome evidence. One notorious example involved the North Uist bulb-growing experiment which was abruptly terminated in the early 1970s by the Highlands and Islands Development Board. The plan was to cultivate 800 acres for bulbs, in close proximity to the Granville residence. It was a scheme with huge employment potential and its abandonment is still remembered with much regret. Though it was always denied, many ob-



Welcome to Uist... Prince Charles and Earl Granville

ervers believed that it was the objections from Lord Granville which had prevailed. Granville was a nephew of the Queen Mother, on his mother's side, informal royal visits to Callianish were quite frequent, particularly when the Britannia made its

annual voyage up the west coast, as the Royal Family headed for Balmoral. It was this connection which introduced Prince Charles to his celebrated love affair with the small island of Barra, off North Uist, where he picked potatoes and stayed in the home of the local ferryman. His elder son, who already holds the title of Lord Leveson, succeeds him.

Although a member of the House of Lords for more than 40 years, Granville spoke in it only once — in 1988 when he was critical of the Nature Conservancy Council (forerunner of Scottish Natural Heritage) for designating so many Sites of Special Scientific Interest and objecting to fish farming development. He was a frequent visitor to London, where he maintained a home, and he died there after being taken ill while in the south to attend the wedding of his younger son, Neil, who now runs North Uist Estate.

Geoffrey Strickland

Scholar of Stendhal

THE STENDHAL scholar Geoffrey Strickland, who has died aged 65, was recently credited by Michael Foot for introducing him to work of the great man. It was Strickland's 1969 selection of Stendhal's journalism, that Foot said had made him seek out everything written about the French writer in English.

Strickland was born in Aldershot, the son of a soldier, and won a scholarship to Downing College, Cambridge, from Farnborough grammar school. There in the early 1960s he studied under FR Leavis — Strickland's two last essays in the current Cambridge Review are on his old teacher — and even then stood out for intellectual vigour and independence of mind. He spent hours with the university Roman Catholic chaplain trying to bridge Catholicism and Marxism. Years later he would admit to

being "ni croyant ni pratiquant" (neither believing nor practising), and politically a rightward shift is evident from his writings. He quoted with amused satisfaction a friend's comment that he was "a forward-looking Victorian". From Cambridge he studied at the Sorbonne, taught at Grenoble and three other French universities, and spent a term at the University of California. His longest appointment was at Reading University from which he retired last August. The title of one of his many articles on higher education was "The decline and marketing of the British university". It reflected his view that a decline in standards was the consequence of turning universities into businesses in which market forces held sway. He kept up a voluminous correspondence with his friends — and he wrote the sort of letters that one keeps. He also published many, many books and articles; his last book, an extensive study of language poetry and power in 17th century France, was completed just before he left for Greece, where he died. He loved England, France and Greece — passionately but separately. Three years ago, after a 10-year absence from Greece, he wrote to a friend: "I shall be happy spending a lot of my retirement in Greece, with its sea and living away mountains, tolerating our transient ways, but I will like especially being among Greeks, with their depth and freedom...". He leaves a Greek widow, Philothei (Fay), and two sons.

Jackdaw

old, Hell. Dear Santa, You didn't send me my choo choo train last year you bastard! Go to hell!  
Eric and Ashley Vidal, 10 years old, USA. How do you know if you are naughty or nice?

Santa Claws

DU PREEZ 12 years old, South Africa. Dear Santa Clause, do you cater for South Africans? Merry Christmas.  
Ben Karpf, 9,971 years old, Jakarta. I love you Santa. I need new teeth, but not a jawline. Emily loves you too but she's from Texas and she's weird. Some people think she's a whore, but I don't. Becky Nahon, 5 years old, USA. Dear Santa I would like some jewellery since my mom moved out and took all of her jewellery with her, a new Barbie and some make-up.  
Anonymous, 1,100 years

Mod cons

MOBILE-phone owners have for some time been worried about the possibility of brain damage from radiation. But now there is another, more immediate, health concern: the danger of pressure palsy. The British Medical Journal reports that a mobile-phone user developed debilitating muscle weakness and pain in his arm and shoulder from cradling the device in the crook of his neck while driving. The palsy — or loss of muscle control — took over four weeks to resolve, during which time the victim was so disabled he led to do without his indispensable yuppie tool. The symptoms were caused by the compression of the upper shoulder nerve by the phone's hard edge. Doctors advise that, to avoid unnecessary strain, the shoulders should be kept straight and level and everybody, including car drivers,

Wee to women

1. DON'T demand a precise time when he'll call.  
2. Bitching is not sexy.  
3. Ditto for nagging.  
4. If you're always right, stop asking his opinion.  
5. Two words: turn signal.  
6. An "I don't know, what do you want to do?" is not an acceptable answer to every question.  
7. Never bring home a cat as a surprise.  
8. Don't even bother touching the remote, just tell him what you want to see.  
9. Teased sports are more important than stories about your friends.  
10. Despite what you think, sometimes he is happier left alone.  
11. Believe it or not, he could care less how he looks when

I am Girl

SUSAN B Anthony, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton fought long and hard for my rights and the rights of other women. Right now, I know exactly how Susan B Anthony may feel: I CAN'T VOTE! I'm only nine years old, but because of her courage I WILL BE ABLE TO VOTE when I get older!  
The monument has been in the Capitol crypt for 75 years. I THINK THAT'S LONG ENOUGH! Since learning about the statue, I have sent out more than 1,000 letters to family friends and politicians. I WILL NOT STOP UNTIL THE STATUE IS RAISED.  
I have received many responses. I even heard from the Dallas Cowboy Cheer-

leaders. Unfortunately, they only sent me ONE DOLLAR!

In my letters I am asking for Susan B Anthony coins or paper dollars marked with the initials "SBA." That way, when other people get the dollar bill, they will know that the money went to honour Susan B Anthony.  
I've heard some people say that the statue is UGLY! To that I say: IT WAS AN UGLY TIME! The three women in

Feble attempt

PARKING VIOLATION TOWN/REG TIME/DATE  
This is not a parking ticket, but if it were within my power you would receive two. Because of your Bull headed, inconsiderate, feeble

attempt at parking you have

taken enough room for a 20-strong male team. 20 elephants, a goat and a safari of pygmies from the African interior. The reason for giving you this is so that in future you may think of someone other than yourself. Besides, I don't like domineering, egotistical or simple minded drivers and you probably fit one of these categories.  
I sign off wishing you an early gearbox failure (on the M25 at about 4.30pm). Also, may the fleas of a thousand camels infest your armpits. WITH MY COMPLIMENTS For those who get pissed off with someone's parking. You are instructed to print the text on a piece of pink, A5-ish paper and keep in glove-box. At <http://www.dlmae.co.uk/personal/dono/picket.html>. Thanks to Mathias Disney.

Christmas lists from the Santa Claus page at <http://cgi.greenland-guide.co.uk/guests.html>. Thanks to John Dean.

Jackdaw wants jewels.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail [jackdaw@guardian.co.uk](mailto:jackdaw@guardian.co.uk); fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Emily Sheffield

Harper's...

Harper's... statuesque

Feble attempt

Feble attempt

Jackdaw wants jewels.

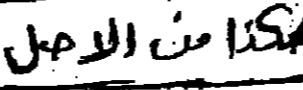
Jackdaw wants jewels.

Emily Sheffield

Emily Sheffield

Harper's...

Harper's... statuesque



ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/Why Britain's once mighty industries are running out of steam



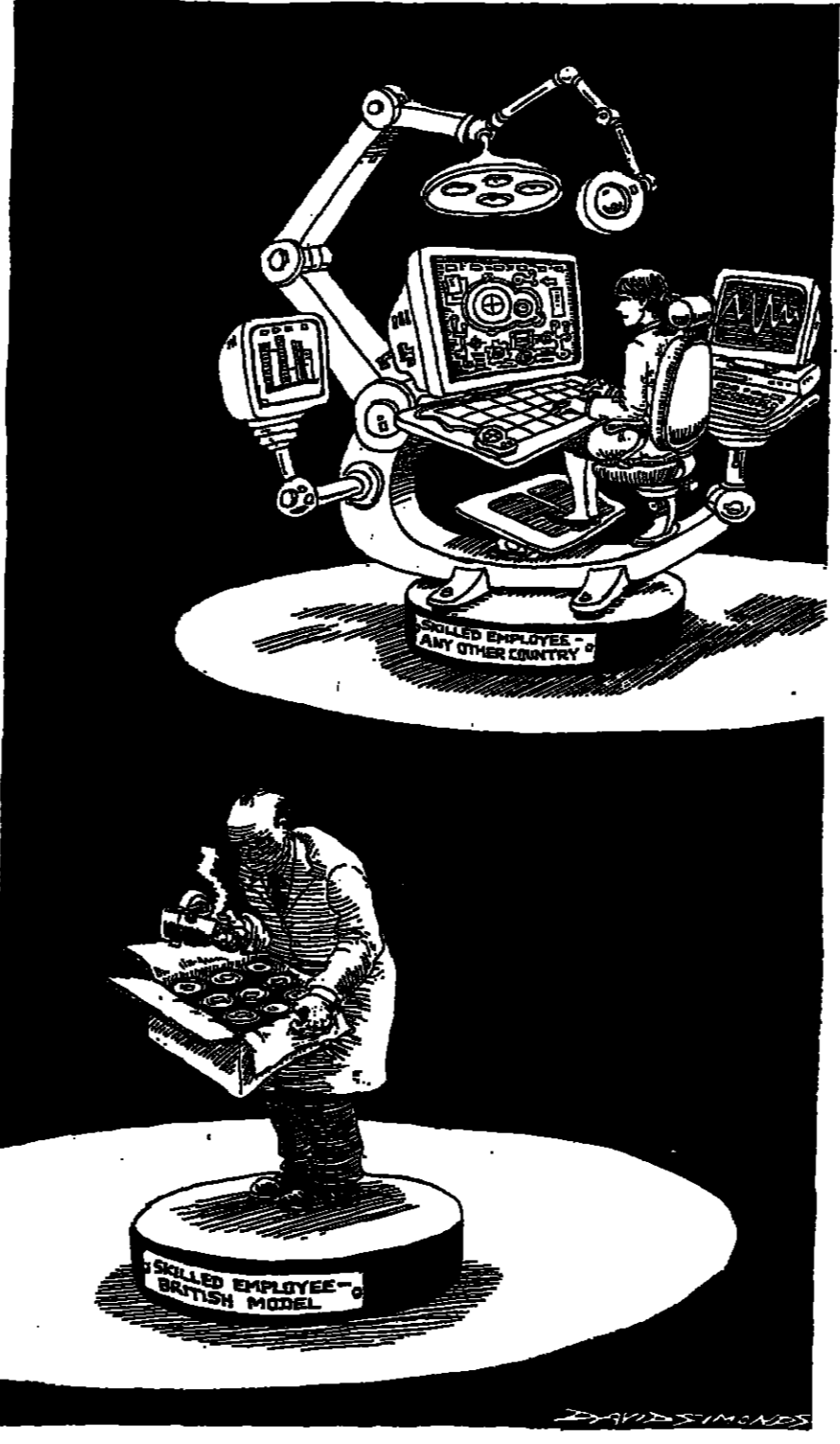
Cheap ideology offers cheerless prospect

Low wages are no recipe for hi-tech output

Larry Elliott

ONE of comedy's finest moments is the scene in Fawlty Towers...

as to put it as nearly as possible upon an equality with the improved management of the Americans...



Job jitters are justified and time's up, John

John Philpott and Nick Isles pinpoint the flaws in CBI thinking

DO YOU feel reasonably secure in your job? If your answer is "no", up to half the workers in Britain today probably agree with you...

As phoney as the Bank of England

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

THERE must be someone else out there a little dissatisfied with that title of an attempted fraud on the clearing system using a stolen Bank of England cheque worth millions of pounds...

Then there was that little difficulty last year when it emerged that the London arm of a Wall Street bank had booked to itself millions of dollars of non-existent money...

Slow death of a thousand cuts

Sarah Ryle meets a man who accuses Prime Minister of treason

And the official measure of unemployment is falling.

WHEN a man likens his predicament to that of a medieval saint, tortured to death by an unsympathetic establishment, you know he is more than somewhat disillusioned with the authorities...

over again but you are tortured slowly and then a couple of hundred years later they recognise the importance of what you were doing and make you a saint...

Tourist rates - bank sells

Table with 2 columns: Country and Rate. Includes Australia 2.030, France 8.16, Italy 2.457, Singapore 2.25, etc.

Indicators

TODAY - EU: ECOFIN Meeting. UK: Producer prices (Oct). TOMORROW - UK: British Retail Consortium survey (Oct). WEDNESDAY - UK: Minutes of Chancellor/Governor meeting, September 23. UK: Unemployment (Oct).

Supplied by Hightel Bank publishing Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel at all times of business on Friday.

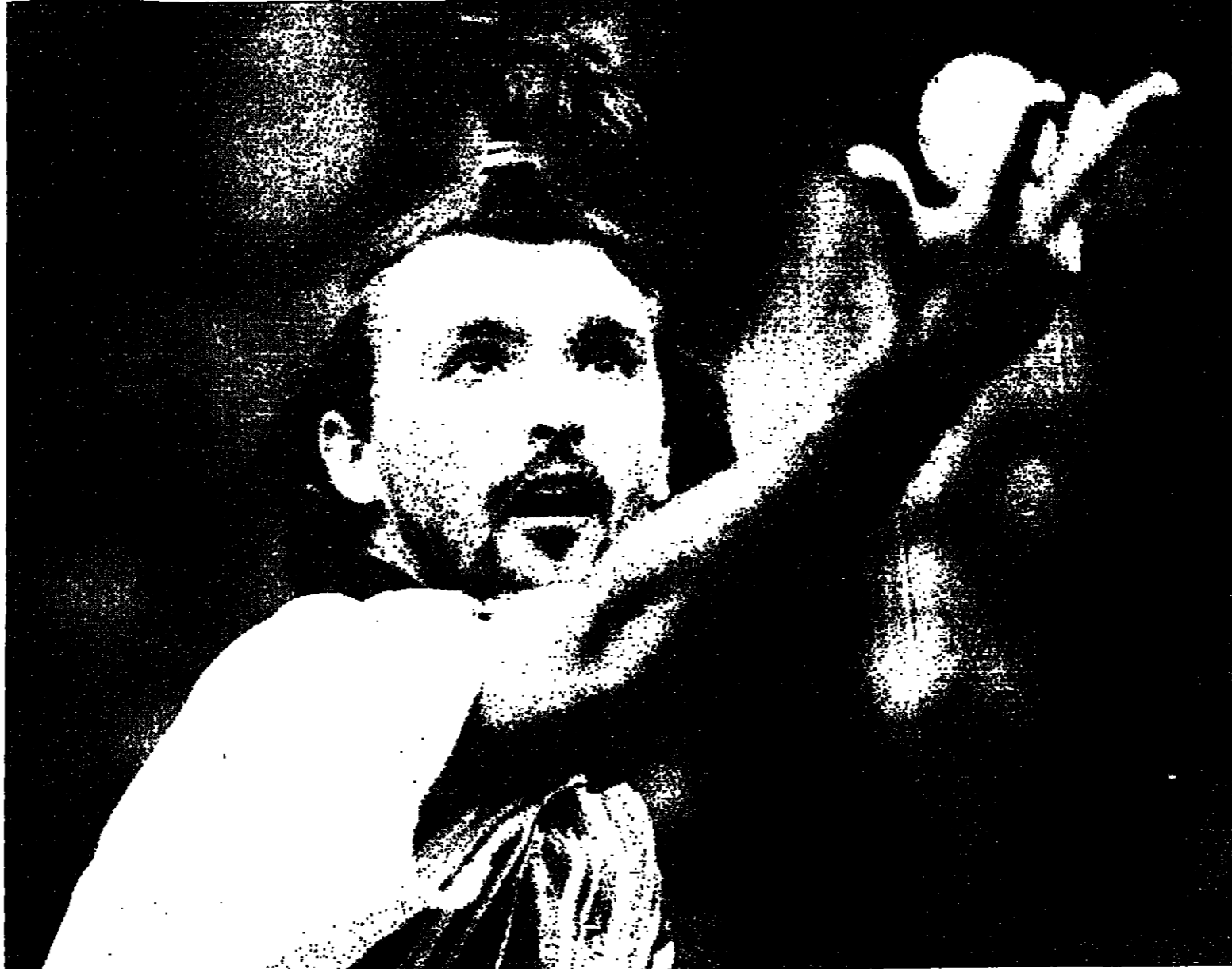
12 SPORTS NEWS

Tennis Goran struts to success

Richard Jago in Moscow

GORAN IVANISEVIC beat the top seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov and overcame distractions from spectators who sometimes applauded as he whistled as he was winding up for second serves. He launched 23 aces, modified his bunched-up hairstyle to look like a peacock's crest, strutted into and out of hassles about line decisions, joked with the press about punching umpires' dummies, and generally conducted himself with a mixture of passion, control and humour once beyond him.

The Kremlin Cup, Ivanisevic's first title for nine months and since a worrying neck injury, was extremely important to the twice Wimbledon finalist. The 3-6, 6-7, 6-3 victory was significant in a sadly different way for the French Open champion. It denied him a chance to climb to world No. 2, quietened a record crowd of 18,000 fellow Russians, and produced a traumatic flash amid partisan atmosphere before Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. Three successive double faults in a husband final game betrayed the 22-year-old's feelings. He had a little too much pressure on Kafelnikov, the favourite in name only. On this Supreme carpet, grown smoother and quicker with age, Ivanisevic's serve - which he described as "nuclear" - was destructive. When Kafelnikov chumped down an ace at 127mph to complete the fifth game, Ivanisevic responded with four aces, three quicker, to win the



Wash 'n' go ... Ivanisevic, who won his first title for nine months, refuses to change his hair style while he is winning

PHOTOGRAPH: TANYA MAKEYEVA

sixth game in less than a minute. He was in that kind of contrary frame of mind. Soon afterwards, when some of the crowd applauded a fault too conspicuously, he lashed a second-serve ace and opened his arms wide in a taunting gesture. It was a surprise when he played a shaky eighth game, costing him the first set, but within two games of the second Kafelnikov conceded the psychological advantage.

That happened after Ivanisevic's winning return had been called out, only for the decision to be overruled. When the point was replayed Kafelnikov double-faulted and followed it with a snatched forehand into the net. That gave Ivanisevic an early break and when Kafelnikov began his next service game with another double fault he became uncertain with his ground strokes and dropped this game too.

Another break in the third game of the third set continued the slide. Perhaps after 163 matches in the year, the most by any player on the Tour, he was jaded as well as tense. The crowd murmured. It was not the dream finish they had packed the aisles and squatted on the steps to see but still the most successful tournament held in Russia. "Part of the crowd had been bad - but what can you do," said Ivanisevic. "I

am older now and can control myself." He refused to change his outrageous hairdo. "I can't do that while I'm winning," he said. Sweden's Thomas Enqvist successfully defended his Stockholm Open title with a 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 victory over Todd Martin yesterday. The 22-year-old, who won the previous week's Paris Open, had been beaten three times on hardcourts by the American. "When he hit a good shot,

I could hit a good shot back and get him running," said Enqvist. "That was the key." The Swiss teenager Martina Hingis, the No. 3 seed, yesterday defeated Brenda Schultz-McCarthy 7-6, 6-3 to reach the final of the Bank of the West Classic in Oakland, where she will play Monica Seles for the first time. The American defeated Romania's Irina Spirlea 6-3, 6-3 in the other semi-final. "When he hit a good shot,

Racing Lottery winner sponsors final card on the Flat

Chris Hawkins

A FLAT season pauperised by the National Lottery but enriched by Frankie Dettori draws to a close at Folkestone today. The counter-attraction of the lottery has meant falling betting turnover and a cut back in prize money, but an Essex man who scooped £2.68 million when his numbers came up is sharing some of his good fortune with racing and sponsoring the whole of today's Folkestone card.

Doug Wood, 50, from Southwick, was out of work when he struck rich 14 months ago and has since become something of a philanthropist as well as a racecourse regular. It sounds as if Wood knows how to enjoy himself and he will be taking a party of friends to Folkestone today, giving them some betting money and a slap-up lunch. "I'm sure it will be a great day out and all we need to do now is back a few winners," said Wood, but all accounts is no mug when it comes to sorting out the horses - he once won £6,000 in reads at Wolverhampton. It is a story to warm punters' hearts and ranks with Dettori's incredible seven out of seven at Ascot in the fairytale stakes. Dettori's talents were on show in Italy yesterday when he rode a treble at The Capannelle in Rome, including the group one Premio Roma on the John Gosden-trained Flemish filly.

At Doncaster on Saturday, Nigel Day took the riding honours with a fine display of horsemanship on Clifton Fox in the Tote November Handicap. Clifton Fox came from behind a wall of horses and hung back left throughout the final furlong, but still got up to beat the favourite, Kutta, by a neck. Backers of

Chasers of course, and it was with mixed feelings that she announced the retirement of Clifton Fox, one of her great servants, after he had trailed in at Wincanton. "I feel a mixture of emotions," she said. "I'm glad in one way it's all over for him and that he's still perfectly sound and in one piece. "He gave us one of our greatest days in the Gold Cup and it was such a shame he couldn't quite hold on up the Aintree run-in to do the double in the National."

Folkestone with form guide

- 1.30 Key Largo
1.50 Teletex
2.30 Just Nick
2.50 Bobby's Dream
3.50 Pat's Splendor
3.50 Golden Hovew

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - SPANISH BIRDIE: Haycock straight, led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - KEY LARGO: Prominent, drove along 2nd, beaten 11th of 11, behind Restless (Doncaster 17th Nov). ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - JUST NICK: Led on straight, led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - JUST NICK: Led on straight, led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Wolverhampton (All-weather)

- 1.40 Mop's Year Feller
1.40 Bonnie Vain
2.10 Mighty Kim
2.40 Chalky Lame
3.40 Rebel Girl
4.10 In The Money

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - MOP'S YEAR FELLER: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - BONNIE VAIN: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - CHALKY LAME: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - REBEL GIRL: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Carlisle National Hunt card

- 1.30 Parkside Branch
1.40 Pabbly Rose (ex)
2.00 Leap In The Dark
2.40 Brighter Shale
3.40 PARSONS BOY (ex)
3.50 Treadoe
3.50 Weaver George
4.00 Brighter Shale

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - PARSONS BOY: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - TREADOE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - WEAVER GEORGE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - BRIGHTER SHALE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Carlisle National Hunt card

- 1.30 Parkside Branch
1.40 Pabbly Rose (ex)
2.00 Leap In The Dark
2.40 Brighter Shale
3.40 PARSONS BOY (ex)
3.50 Treadoe
3.50 Weaver George
4.00 Brighter Shale

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - PARSONS BOY: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - TREADOE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - WEAVER GEORGE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and horse names with jockeys and trainers.

FORM GUIDE - BRIGHTER SHALE: Led over 20 out, eased final, won at Doncaster 17th Nov. ... SALLY BEHAVIOUR: Good steady, never beaten, 6th of 13, behind Myndon (Doncaster 21st Nov).



WORLD CUP SOCCER

Group Two: Georgia 0, England 2

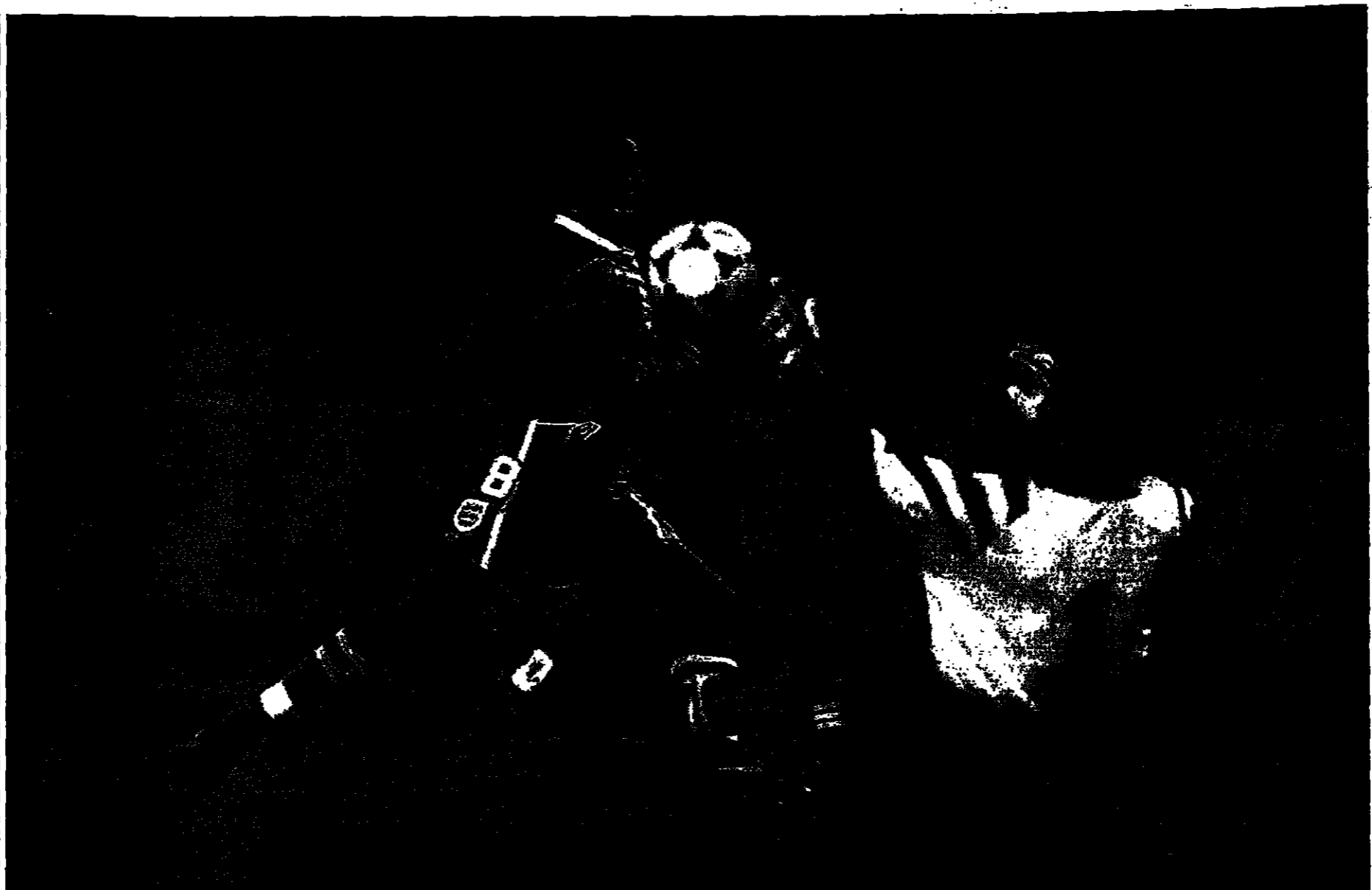
Hodde plays smother superior

Commentary

David Lacey

THE talents of Glenn Hodde seem boundless. As a player he was an acknowledged...

As entertainment compared unfavourably with a post-office queue, but in the context of what was required...



Wright moment... the Arsenal striker, given a run out for the last 10 minutes of England's win in Tbilisi, sees his effort saved by the Georgia goalkeeper...

restraint and good judgment. True, Batty did offer Kinkladze a late reminder that his capacity for inflicting pain was undiminished...

colgne could provide five days after a public apology for hitting his wife and amid growing evidence that he no longer has the stamina for matches at this level...

set of curtains to be opened for him. Either way it will surely be curtains for Gezza soon. His inability to take on opposing defenders because he no longer has a change of pace...

right wing-back and Adams' authority on the field, diminished by his problems with alcohol off it, Hoddle was entitled to be delighted...

He has now matched Bobby Robson's 1994 achievement of winning his first three World Cup qualifiers. Now he has to wait for three months to find out whether the sound defensive habits acquired in Tbilisi will still be there against Italy on Wednesday...

was smacked by the media. That is to say, Brooking was hit by a Georgian opponent at the end of the morning's press game, suffered a cut eye, and flew home looking more like a participant in a fight of the Week than Match of the Day...

First Division: Crystal Palace 3, Queens Park Rangers 0

Life is a beach for Bassett

CRYSTAL PALACE moved into second place in the table, behind Bolton, with their fourth victory in a row. They have scored 13 goals in their four matches and with 33 this season...

they will be away to Bolton, tomorrow week they meet their manager Dave Bassett's old club, Sheffield United...

Both players had important games yesterday. Day was solid in goal during Queens Park Rangers' long periods of ascendancy and Dyer scored the rather fortunate opener in the 40th minute...

power. Halfway through the second half, Sommer made outstanding saves to deny Shipperley and Freedman but from the second rebound Shipperley drove the ball home...

We had more chances. We had our best spell in the last 10 minutes of the first half when we scored the first goal. The season is only a third over, so there is still a lot to be asked from the players...

Collymore with fury in reserve

Ian Ross finds Liverpool's sulking striker in unrepentant mood with the second team

THE sky was grey above Anfield on Saturday. There was no promise of rain, and the thought of a Liverpool player with Collymore's mind that his pampered feet might not have to go the full distance...

Lost amid the shrieking Jamie Redknapp teenage fan-club in the main stand sat Paul Streetford, who has been a Liverpool player since he was 16...

West Bromwich Albion 1, Port Vale 1

Rudge happy to continue a long-distance love affair

STEVE COPPELL bites the dust at Manchester City. Ron Atkinson bites the sugar pill after being kicked upstairs by Coventry, and all the while John Rudge keeps turning up at Port Vale quite happy to bite the bullet...

Money is tight. Rudge has not been able to purchase a player for 12 months, but he still continues to fashion silk purses out of pigs' hearing apparatus...

Atkinson denies Manchester City approach

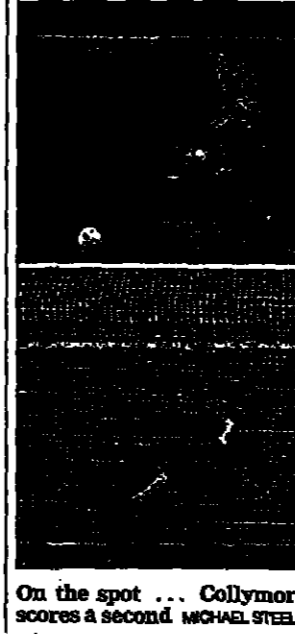
RON ATKINSON, Coventry City's brand new director of football, has denied strong rumours that he has been approached by Manchester City to replace Steve Coppell as manager...

Second Division: Bristol City 1, Millwall 1

Nicholl takes strange line with 'interfering' linesmen

JIMMY NICHOLL is a wise tactician and his Millwall side look sharp enough to make a prompt return to the First Division, but he takes a distinctly oddball view of the linesman's role these days...

David Foot solo sprint on goal, acted sensibly with his compromise award. From the free-kick, Barnard, once of Chelsea and these days an outstanding member of the Ashton Gate defence, spotted a gap in the wall and floated the ball in off the angle of the bar...



On the spot... Collymore scores a second. MICHAEL STEELE

Group Nine Germany 1 Northern Ireland 1

Hamilton finds the right balance

Michael Walker in Muresborg

IF Darren Anderson's shot had not come back off Andreas Köpcke's post at Wembley in June but instead had settled in the back of the net, England would have won Euro 96...

Imagine then that England had drawn Northern Ireland in their World Cup qualifying group and that the first game back at Wembley was against Bryan Hamilton's collection of reserve-team journeymen and diminutive wingers...

Given that scenario and you get a sense of the triumphant expectation that greeted Germany in the Frankfurter Stadion on Saturday. They even played Football's Coming Home...

But then Northern Ireland, with only a home defeat and a draw to their name, not only held out for that important first half-hour but also went on to score...

Admittedly Andreas Möller equalised immediately, thereby averting an upset of Mike Tyson-like proportions, but the Irish showed unbending resistance to register a famous draw...

And this was pressure. At times the Germans may have lacked impetuosity but six on-target strikes in the opening 20 minutes, nine corners in the final quarter of an hour, are an indication of their passages of control...

Yet even in the late stages the Irish declined to host the ball. Instead they waited for a better option to find Neil Lennon or Michael Hughes foraging away beyond the German midfield, or Iain Dowie striving manfully and successfully alone up front...

That trio and Ian Nolan of Sheffield Wednesday were the only ones in the starting line-up playing regularly in the Premiership. For players like Steve Morrow at Arsenal and Colin Hill at Leicester, first-team football is a rarity, while the rest are not even big names in the Nationwide League...

As a team, as a unit, they get the balance right. Strangely and infuriatingly, however, Northern Ireland seem capable, only of doing this away from home. Six times now in 2 1/2 years of competitive fixtures Northern Ireland have been to difficult venues and remained undefeated...

At Windsor Park, though, there have been four defeats. It had to escape the conclusion that its lack of atmosphere affects performance. That was not a problem in this inspiring stadium, one eerily quiet by the half-hour mark and totally silenced eight minutes later...

Forty thousand Germans sat stunned as Thomas Strunz's attempted clearance fell at the left foot of Gerry Taggart whose instant lash whipped past Köpcke. It was a flash of power and precision, the sort of goal that would have won the trophy for Northern Ireland...

The euphoric mood lasted about 90 seconds. Möller's swift one-two with Bobic ended with the ball whistling past Tommy Wright. It had to be some shot to beat a goalkeeper who was having one of those nights in what was his first international for over two years...

Wright managed to get fingers and feet to everything and on the one occasion he failed Edinmann's header hit one post, bounced along the line, hit the other and landed in Wright's grasp...

How childish - and sadly, how typical. This morning, his behaviour at Anfield will be discussed by those very Liverpool officials who just five days ago warned him about his future conduct. He will need a good explanation...

WORLD CUP SOCCER

Group Four: Scotland 1, Sweden 0

Scots in Group Four robbery

Patrick Glenn at Ibrox Park

SCOTLAND appear to have mastered the black art of taking a roasting without being burned. The 2,000 or so Swedes who formed part of a 46,738 capacity crowd left with the conviction that surgery was at work against a visiting team who generally outplayed the Scots and missed enough scoring chances to have won an entire series of World Cup qualifiers.

The concept of luck usually has no place in the pragmatic business of soccer but those who witnessed a victory that takes Craig Brown's side to the top of Group Four would be entitled to argue with that observation.

The idea that the Swedes had been not so much in decline as unfortunate since finishing third in the 1994 World Cup finals had been circulating freely before yesterday's game. Brown himself said they had virtually overrun Austria in Stockholm last month and lost 1-0, including among their woes a missed penalty by Kenneth Anderson.

The towering Bologna striker replaced the injured Dahlin after only 16 minutes and spent the remaining 74 demonstrating how he managed not to score a single goal for his club this season.

By way of contrast, John McGinlay scored with the only genuine chance the Scots created in the entire match. Only nine minutes had gone when Boyd played the ball in from the left and Jackson's dummy allowed it to run towards the penalty area.

McGinlay, whose hot streak at Bolton in recent months made him a good choice for his country, led it in his stride, held off Bjorklund as he moved to the right and sent a low drive from 12 yards to the right of Ravelli.

The Swedish coach, Tommy Svensson, changed his normal 4-4-2 formation to a 4-5-1 to ensure that the Scots' wide players McNamara and Tosh, who were expected to be clamped, Thern, Zetterberg and Schwarz proceeded to dominate the heart of the midfield and make menacing progress towards Leighton.

Once in the vicinity, however, they found a veteran goalkeeper in the form of a twenty-year-old, leaping to block at forwards' feet and springing to punch or hold the crosses and corners that Blomqvist and Alexandersson hurried towards him with alarming regularity.

After the game the 33-year-old Leighton, second choice to Andy Goram in Euro 96, revealed that he had been on the point of giving up international soccer and had only changed his mind after a family conference. "I didn't really want to chuck it," he added. "I don't think I've enjoyed my previous 74 games as much as that. Yet for the first hour I was nervous."

"We haven't played as poorly as that for a long time but our defenders made a tremendous contribution and we have now got ourselves in a smashing position in the group."

If, however, Leighton was brilliant — and ably supported by the twin pillars, Hendry and Calderwood — Anderson must have left the stadium so depressed that he might have gone looking for a tall building.

There would have been nothing Leighton could have done in the 87th minute when Bjorklund laid a centre from the right plumb on the forehead of the big striker. The ball, from 10 yards, hurtled away to the goalkeeper's left, but wide of the post.

Blomqvist, the IFK Gothenburg winger who is so highly regarded throughout Europe that he is expected to join Milan in the next week or so, was yet again a source of anxiety for Svensson. He has now played 18 internationals without a goal or a memorable performance.

The Scots will surely play better when some injured players return. But they are unlikely ever to match such a terrific result to such a poor performance.

SCOTLAND: Leighton (Nibernian); Calderwood (Bolton), Hendry (Blackburn), Boyd (Celtic), McNamara (Celtic), Tosh (Blackburn), Jackson (Blackburn), Thern (Blackburn), Zetterberg (Blackburn), Schwarz (Blackburn). SWEDEN: Ravelli; Nilsson, P. Nilsson, Bjorklund, Larsson, S. Larsson (A. Larsson), 78; Andersson, 79; Andersson, 79; Andersson, 79; Andersson, 79.



Very happy Wanderer... Bolton's John McGinlay celebrates the only goal at Ibrox Park

Group Eight: Rep of Ireland 0, Iceland 0

McCarthy learns some home truths

Charlie Stuart at Lansdowne Road

THE Republic of Ireland suffered a serious setback to their hopes of reaching a third successive World Cup finals when they were held to a scoreless draw by Iceland in their Group Eight qualifier in Dublin yesterday.

The two dropped points mean that the Republic now slip to second place behind Macedonia on goal difference. That amazing 11-1 victory by Macedonia in Liechtenstein on Saturday keeps the Balkan nation in top position, with Romania looking threatening in third place with a game in hand.

It was an afternoon of sheer frustration for the Irish against an Icelandic side who had picked up just one point from their three previous qualifying games.

"Iceland did well in that they prevented us from playing our normal game," said the Republic manager Mick McCarthy. "They came to get a point and they did their job extremely well. But there are still plenty of games to come."

Inevitably, the Irish were dominant in the early stages when, first, Tony Cascarino headed a Phil Babb cross just wide, then David Kelly went close with a low cross that the goalkeeper Birkir Kristinsson saved away to safety after it had spun wickedly off a defender.

Roy Keane, back in an Irish shirt after missing nine inter-

nationals, received a mixed reception from the 33,869 crowd. But he soon silenced his detractors with a commanding performance in the centre of defence and, later, when switching to an orthodox midfield role.

Little was seen of Iceland as an attacking force and the referee Stefan Ormandjiev was kept busy handing out six yellow cards, including one each to Gary Breen and David Kelly.

McCarthy decided to change his tactics on 64 minutes, allowing Keane to assume a midfield role in a 4-4-2 formation. It almost paid immediate dividends with McLoughlin going just inches wide of the target again. But that was as much as a muted Dublin crowd was able to enjoy on an afternoon that could prove difficult to repair in the coming months.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Kelly (Sheff. United); Keane (Blackburn); McLoughlin (Wolves); O'Connell (Birmingham); Keane (Manchester United); Hart, Leeds, (S. McLaughlin (Preston), McAteer (Liverpool), Townsend (Aston Villa), Kelly (Sunderland); Moore, Middleton (Bristol City), Campbell (Middlesbrough). ICELAND: Kristinsson, Sigurdsson, Bjarnason, Jonsson, Adolfsen, B. Sigurdsson (A. Sigurdsson, 77), Gylfason, J. Gylfason, S. Sigurdsson, T. Sigurdsson (Blackburn), Halsson, Stefan Ormandjiev (Referee).

Leonhardsen maintains Norway's perfect record

Russell Thomas

WIMBLEDON'S Oyvind Leonhardsen enjoyed a much happier World Cup excursion than his midfield club-mate Vinnie Jones as the Norwegian struck the only goal in Switzerland yesterday to extend his country's 100 per cent record.

Leonhardsen's decisive strike in Berne after 32 minutes gave Norway their third successive win in Group Three and they have yet to concede a goal in this qualifying campaign.

The Swiss, now six points off the pace, initially contained a Norwegian team packed with Premiership players and which had amassed eight goals in the two previous games.

Norway broke through when Tore Andre Flo's drive from just inside the area was parried by Marco Pascolo.

Leonhardsen struck home the rebound. Hungary are three points behind the Swiss after two goals, one a penalty, from the Ferencvaros midfielder Elek Nylas and a late strike by the Belgium-based Florian Urban gave them a 3-0 win in Azerbaijan.

Bosnia completed a memorable week by claiming their first competitive win, triumphing 2-1 in Slovenia in Group One.

The Fenerbahce striker Elvir Bolic, scourge of Italy in midweek and Manchester United previously, struck again, hitting the fifth-minute goal that was followed by a superb individual effort from Mehmed Kodro (32). Zlatko Zahovic replied with a penalty (41). Everton's Andrei Kanchelskis contributed a 39th-minute goal as Russia strolled to a 4-0 triumph in Luxembourg despite having Yuri Nikiforov sent off (37) in Group Five.

Group Seven: Holland 7, Wales 1

Naive Wales go belly up as Gould's well runs dry

Martin Thorpe in Eindhoven

THE Wales manager Bobby Gould's post-match rule is to wait a day before facing the press. That way reasons not emotion does the talking.

On Saturday, after Wales's biggest defeat in a competitive game, he broke that rule, and true to his own fears let his welling emotions lead him to a meander of disjointed explanation and blame, which included attacking the press for not improving their education by watching a Dutch schoolboys' game he had seen on Friday.

This is Gould's problem: passionate and idealistic on the one hand but on the other rambling and, at times, illogical. For instance, he rightly drooled

about the quality of the Dutch coaching system, and rightly criticised the Welsh set-up for lagging behind. But change will take years. Gould's problem right now is qualifying for the World Cup finals, with the players he has.

Because most of them are not international class, that means husbanding



Gould... emotional meander

those meagre resources carefully. Not using, against a side as formidable as Holland, Jason Bowen, a midfielder who is not even a regular for Birmingham City. Especially when Nottingham Forest's David Phillips, who has the nose one needs at this level, is not even in the squad.

Ditto, Wales's all-time top goalscorer Ian Rush, who was not included despite the absence through injury and suspension of Giggs and Hughes. Both Phillips and Rush have been cold-shouldered, allegedly because of a clash of personalities with the manager.

Now Gould has upset one of his few prospects, John Hartson, by substituting him during an impressive individual performance for Kicking Coco off the ball.

And some already have doubts about Gould. The test of his management will be to lift the team for the four remaining qualifiers against Belgium and Turkey, beginning with Turkey's visit next month. Defeat then and Wales can effectively say goodbye to the finals.

Wales's chronic lack of organisation, the players were left chasing the shadows of Dutchmen luxuriating in one-touch pass-and-move football. It brought seven goals, including Bergkamp's first international hat-trick, and forced Southall into 13 saves.

But players are not stupid. They can spot if a manager knows his stuff.

HOLLAND: Van der Sar; Beijersbergen, Smit, F. de Boer, Meeuwis, Oude Vrielink, Van Brundshoort, 82min; Seedorf (Van Brundshoort, 82), R. de Boer (Overmars, 59), Bergkamp.

WALE: Southall (Everton); H. Bowen (West Ham), Mathias (Southampton), G. Phillips (Blackburn), S. Jones (Middlesbrough), J. Hartson (Birmingham), D. Phillips (Nottingham Forest), P. Jones (Wrexham), P. Jones (Sheff. Wed), Saunders (Nottingham Forest), Hartson (Aston).

Referee: V. Pereira (Portugal).

Brighton plan Trafalgar rally

Steve Actonson

BRIGHTON supporters, some of whom boycotted Saturday's 1-1 draw with Mansfield but threw water bombs, set off fireworks and climbed into the ground during the game, are planning to stage a rally in Trafalgar Square before their match at Fulham on November 30.

"They're fanatical and they won't let go," said the Brighton manager Jimmy Case, referring to Saturday's events. "If they came in numbers, got behind the team and forgot about the board, that would be a protest for my players. The game was dead before that. A silent ground always benefits the visitors."

The fans had boycotted the game in protest at plans to leave the Goldstone Ground at the end of the season without making alternative arrangements. The chairman Bill Archer was not present but David Bellotti, the chief executive, was and sat impassively in the stand although he missed the second half.

Upwards of 2,000 fans stayed away but after Mansfield's goal several scaled the walls and forced a gate, allowing around 800 more to enter. The official gate was a post-war low of 1,998.

Wigan resist peer pressure

Paul Fitzpatrick on the rise of moneyed Athletic which has left the famous rugby league club as the town's poor relations

AS THIS drought in the North-west drew to an end last week the Wigan Athletic manager John Deehan had the problem of finding a piece of land in the town dry enough for his players to train on.

Come Saturday, though, all was well. On the spacious and perfect surface that is Springfield Park Athletic kept pace with the leaders, Fulham and Cambridge United, by defeating Hereford 4-1.

One of the goals was scored by the experienced Andy Saville, Deehan's most recent signing for £100,000 from Preston; another came from Graeme Jones, who cost £150,000 from Doncaster.

These are modest sums, but the money available to Deehan has given him a power not available to all Third Division managers. Many eyes have been turned in one direction, the world's most famous rugby league club, who can barely rub two brass farthings together at present, among them.

have once gained promotion (retaining when they came) and in 1985 won the Freight Rover Trophy.

Over that same period Wigan rugby league club has collected silverware on a scale far beyond Athletic's comprehension: Challenge Cups and championships, Premiership and World Club Challenges and numerous other pots besides.

It has not simply been a case that Wigan could look down their noses at Athletic; they could afford to ignore them, as they did during the eighties when the Latics went cap-in-hand asking Wigan to take them in.

But no longer. As the two clubs grope their way towards possible ground sharing, it is Athletic who are calling many of the shots, or at least their wealthy owner Dave Whelan is.

Whelan was once honorary president of Wigan and a major sponsor of the club. The JB initials of his sports empire, now on his footballers' shirts, were once on the jerseys of the league men.

He fell out with Wigan in disgust at the way the club bundled their long-serving full-back Steve Hampson through the exit door just before his benefit season was due. Whelan then flirted with Orrell rugby union club before early last year buying the soccer club.

The story has considerable mileage left yet, but for the present Whelan's money is giving Athletic one of their most rewarding seasons.

Advertisement for Canon MultiPASS 10 fax machine. Text includes: 'We've put a printer into our fax machine to give you some extra space'. Features listed: computing, printing, copying, imaging. Canon logo and slogan: 'If anyone can Canon can'.

